

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIV.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 27th September, at Newchwang, the wife of A. B. J. VAN ESS, of a daughter.

On the 4th October, at Hangchow, the wife of S. N. BABINGTON, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., of a daughter.

On the 7th October, at 15, Hankow Road, the wife of C. H. GODFREY, of a son.

On the 10th October, at 39, Range Road, Shanghai, the wife of J. WOLDER, of a daughter.

On the 11th October, at Foochow, the wife of HUGH SUTHERLAND, of a son.

On the 15th October, at Treverbyn, Peak, the wife of H. E. TOMKINS, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 5th September, at Holy Trinity Church, Bournemouth, by the Rev. Canon Eliot, WALTER KING, to LOUIE MAUD BLACKWELL.

On the 2nd October, at H.B.M. Consulate, Newchwang, H. P. MILLER, of Imperial Chinese Postal Service, to ALICE M. LLOYD, daughter of the late EDMUND LLOYD, of Cardiganshire, South Wales.

On the 9th October, in St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, JAMES LAIDLAW MAXWELL, M.D. (Lond.), of Tainanfoo, Formosa, younger son of Dr. MAXWELL, 49, Highbury Park, London, late of Formosa, to MILLICENT BERTHA, daughter of the late LESLIE SAUNDERS, I.C.S., Chief Commissioner of The Berars, India.

DEATHS.

On the 13th October, at Wongniecheong, ANNIE, the wife of F. E. SHUSTER, aged 41 years.

On the 14th October, at No. 11, Knutsford Terrace, Kowloon, Captain ALEXANDER WILLIAM ROSS COBBAN, in his 45th year.

On the 16th October, at 4.30 p.m., at No. 1, Ormsby Villas, Kowloon, ALEXANDER GEDDES AITKEN, aged 65 years.

In England, HAROLD ASHTON, late of Messrs. Holliday, Wise & Co., Manila.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 3rd September arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Kiautschau*, on the 15th October (42 days); and the American mail of the 20th September arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 18th October (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Rear-Admiral Grenfell, who succeeds Rear-Admiral Bruce on the China Station, is a passenger by the P. & O. s.s. *Bullaarat*, which passed the Canal on the 15th inst. and is due about the 9th or 10th November.

Northern native papers last week stated that at the end of the extra ten days' leave of absence asked for, Liu Kung-yi found himself so much better that he has asked to be allowed to resume his usual functions, much to the joy of all in his jurisdiction.

We were informed from the Colonial Secretary's Office on 12th inst. that there had been no cases of plague in Hongkong during the last ten days, and that the Colony may be now considered as free from plague in accordance with the Venice Convention.

The Foreign Office has announced that Sir Alfred Bateman and Mr. Alfred, late Chairman of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, have been engaged for some time in revising the Chinese Customs in accordance with the Protocol, Sir James Mackay and Mr. Anderson, of Shanghai, co-operating.

The negotiations for placing the Japanese bonds on the American market, as already reported, are drawing near a satisfactory conclusion. Marquis Ito, who is now in Chicago, is said to have been commissioned to arrange the price at which the bonds will be placed. The Japanese authorities are eagerly awaiting Marquis Ito's report.

The *Sin Wen Pao* learns that the Japanese Government has declared its anxiety to withdraw the troops now garrisoning Shanghai, as there is not the least sign to show that their presence is required, but the Government for certain reasons has to restrain from carrying out this intention as long as the troops of other powers are still staying at Shanghai.

Last year the Japanese representative in Seoul urged the advisability of erecting light-houses along the Korean coast, and offered Japan's assistance in carrying out the work. Korea replied that she intended to do it herself, but she did not do it. Russia has now taken up the matter, not in the sense of proposing to build the light-houses herself, but only in the role of an adviser that such a measure should not be neglected any longer. Korea's reply is not reported.

Major-General Sun and twenty-eight officers of the Chinese army have passed through Nagasaki on their way to Tokyo. These officers have been despatched by their Government to witness the military manoeuvres to be held shortly in the north-eastern districts of Japan. On the conclusion of the manoeuvres the officers will investigate the Japanese military system, and will return home during November next.

The *Japan Mail* says:—"The British and other European as well as the American residents of Hongkong have subscribed a sum of thirty thousand dollars towards a memorial to her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and the Chinese community have contributed thirty-five thousand dollars for the same purpose. The monument ought to be something very handsome." Our contemporary perhaps does not appreciate the fact that the monument in question will be in London.

The *Mainichi* publishes the two following telegrams concerning Russia and the Newchwang Railway:—Tokyo, October 8th.—A Peking despatch states that Russia is preparing to hand over the Newchwang railway to China in the hope that Great Britain will then transfer the Peking-Shanhaikwan railway to China. It is reported that the Russian Minister to Peking is negotiating the matter with Li Hung-chang. —Peking, October 8th.—Russia will abandon control of the Shanhaikwan and Inkao (Newchwang) railway. Russia now desires that Li Hung-chang will ask the Powers to follow the Russian example on the Peking and Shanhaikwan railway.

A telegram received in Tokyo says that Russia has asked China for a concession to build a railway from a point on her present Trans-Asian line to Maimaichin on the Mongolian frontier. Russia's railway activity in Asia is very striking, comments the *Japan Mail*, especially when one comes to consider the provenance of the money. She seems to be constantly obliged to have recourse to the French exchequer for the purposes of her home finances, yet she spends immense sums abroad on railways which are not likely to give any adequate return for many years to come. Her energy is certainly very admirable. The man at the front in her case never remains idle for a moment. Every agent, military or diplomatic, that she has abroad, seems to devote his untiring energies to the one business of extending her empire.

The *Universal Gazette* is responsible for the statement to the effect that Li Hung-chang has been lately closely secreted with the Russian Minister at Peking, negotiating, it is alleged, concerning the three Manchurian provinces. Owing, however, to the exceedingly private nature of the meetings the public, apart from the knowledge that they related to Manchuria, have not been able to get even an inkling of what actually took place between this well-known Russophile and his Muscovite master. From information received through other sources, the *N.-C. Daily News* says, there is probability that the result of the negotiations mentioned above will not be far from what was prognosticated in its columns several weeks ago, namely, the "lease" of the most northerly portion of Manchuria, that is to say, the Chinese Amur region or Heilung-chiang, to Russia—"on certain conditions."

THE COURT'S RETURN AND THE FUTURE.

(Daily Press, 12th October.)

It is greatly to be feared that, with the evacuation of Peking by the foreign troops, all remembrance of the lesson it was hoped was being taught to vain, egotistical China will rapidly fade into the very thinnest of dreams. As we have often pointed out in this column, the Chinese Government and Chinese officials are adepts in perverting facts and persuading the populace that a defeat is really a victory for Celestial arms or Celestial guile. The reverses suffered by the Chinese troops at the hands of foreign troops, the precipitate flight of the Imperial Court from the Metropolis, and its occupation by foreign soldiers can all be ingeniously shown to have resulted either from natural causes or to have been at the express pleasure of the Emperor for reasons of State, which perhaps it would be pronounced needless to enter upon. That this anticipation was not far-fetched or wide of the mark has been already proved very forcibly from Chinese sources. A native correspondent of a Shanghai contemporary, writing from Peking on the policy of the Manchu dynasty, openly says that if the foreign Powers think that the fighting last year and for a portion of the current year succeeded in striking terror into the hearts of the men now in power and inspired a wholesome dread of the foreigner in the masses living in the interior, then, indeed, they will be greatly disappointed. The Manchu officials, he says, are doing all they can to induce the people to believe that although the Allies may have been successful at first at Tientsin and Peking last year, their successes were but temporary and partial, and that they were eventually compelled to evacuate the capital, and the mandarins point to the full re-establishment of Government control there as irrefragable proof of the statement. The flight of the Imperial Court to Hsianfu they calmly explain away as a "tour of inspection" over the north-western provinces, following the precedent established by CHIN SHIH-HUANG, the first Emperor of the Chin dynasty, who in B.C. 221 first formed the whole of China into one Empire. The correspondent goes on to say:—"There had never been any such tour made by the present dynasty, and so the Empress Dowager, taking advantage of the disturbances in the North, embraced the opportunity to make a tour of inspection of the Yellow River. The very audacious city of such a declaration of the Manchus," he goes on to remark, "makes it look like truth in the minds of the ignorant people in the interior, who actually firmly believe it to be so. Finally, to make things look all the more natural, the interdiction of the foreign Powers on literary and military examinations in Peking for five years on account of the Boxer attacks last year on foreigners in the Imperial Prefecture of Shuntienfu (as Peking and vicinity is termed) is completely ignored, and the masses are made to believe that owing to the disturbance in the capital last year all the Imperial Examination Halls in Peking were entirely destroyed by the enemy," and the Empress Dowager is accordingly considering the feasibility of holding these metropolitan examinations in some other province. Thus are the people misled and the prestige of the corrupt Manchu Government upheld!

In these circumstances the new dispensation seems likely to prove very little improvement on the old régime. The Legations will, it is true, be better guarded and the approach to the capital kept open,

provided, of course, that the Chinese Government is not presently allowed to rebuild the Taku forts. But the Manchu officials, though they have felt the strong hand of the Western, have also made the to them convenient discovery that the foreigners are divided and are held apart by mutual jealousies and divergent interests. When it is sought to enforce Treaty rights, they will offer passive resistance, obstruction, and procrastination, believing that the pressure applied will be feeble owing to the rivalries of the Powers, and the old game of playing them off one against the other and dangling contracts before the eyes of the greedy will go on merrily as of yore. This is what the mandarins probably count upon; it is what we have only too good reason to fear; but we will hope, nevertheless, that counsels of commonsense may prevail in the Legations, and a decided stand be made against any such attempt to lower foreign prestige and damage foreign interests. It certainly is not the real interest of any Power to play into the hands of the Chinese Government in matters affecting foreign trade or enterprise, and if the foreign Ministers will only resist the temptation to secure so-called special advantages and stand firm in their adherence to the general pact to enforce the faithful execution of Treaty stipulations by the Chinese Government, they will in the end reap more solid advantage than any paltry contract or concession could afford. The difficulty is to bring all the foreign Ministers to one mind, and then to keep them convinced of the desirableness of sustained unity in the presence of a shifty and treacherous Oriental Government. The veteran LI HUNG-CHANG, who is a past master in the art of sowing divisions among the Ministers, is rapidly failing in health, and will probably soon be removed from the arena, but his policy and teachings are likely to remain, and should be provided against. After the lessons we have had during the past two years, it might well be thought that the necessity of union was a point that required no insistence among foreigners in the Central Kingdom.

(Daily Press, 16th October.)

After repeated reports that the Chinese Imperial Court was about to leave Hsian-fu and as many contradictions thereof—until the public had lost all interest in a matter which seemed so uncertain—the announcement came at length that their Majesties had really started for Kaifeng on the 6th instant. This date had been fixed upon, after much consideration by the Empress Dowager, and permission had been granted by her to H. E. SHENG YUN, Governor of Shensi, to accompany the Imperial party to the new capital. General MA AN-LIANG, who was in charge of the troops at Hsian-fu, was ordered to take command of the Bodyguard—mostly Kansuh veterans—and instructed to escort the Court to Kaifeng. The migration, now going on, will entail very heavy expenses. Preparations on a huge scale have to be made in advance for the accommodation of the Court and retinue at each halting place. The number of persons composing the Court and its train is very large, and the Bodyguard is quite a small army. They will pretty well eat up the supplies of provisions *en route*, and their passage through the country will doubtless be regarded with anything but rejoicing by the inhabitants. The evacuation of Peking by the foreign troops has no doubt had its due share in finally inducing the Empress Dowager to commence the return journey to the Manchu capital. The sojourn at Hsian-fu has not been too satisfactory, we

imagine. The great distance from the central and southern provinces, the inconvenience of residence in a city ill adapted for the accommodation of so numerous a Court, and the sense of banishment from the ordinary seat of power, must all have conspired to render the stay of the Imperial Court at Hsian-fu very far from comfortable. Yet to move from a position of comparative inaccessibility like Hsian-fu seems to have been a wrench to the Empress Dowager, who evidently dreaded very much the possibility of falling into the hands of the Powers. Even now Her Majesty does not feel sufficient confidence in the permanence of the settlement arrived at, apparently, to proceed direct to Peking, and she has elected therefore to make Kaifeng the headquarters of the Court for the present.

Now that the Chinese Court is fairly embarked on its travels eastward, it may be worth while to hazard some speculation as to its future movements and more especially those of His Majesty the Emperor KWANG HSU. It is not by any means certain that the Emperor, who is still practically a prisoner in the hands of the Empress Dowager and her supporters, will be allowed to extend his journey beyond Kaifeng. From time to time statements have been made to the effect that while the Imperial Court with the Empress Dowager will remain at Kaifeng the Emperor KWANG HSU will be permitted to proceed to Peking, but there has never been any official confirmation of the report. A German journal, the *Lokalanzeiger*, publishes some letters addressed by the Emperor to Prince CHUN, in one of which His Majesty announced that it is his intention to hold a review at Woosung next spring. This may be true, so far as the expression of the intention is concerned, but the Emperor was perhaps reckoning without the host on this occasion, or possibly by choice overlooking the trifling circumstance of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager's consent being necessary. No doubt it is intensely galling to the unfortunate young sovereign to reflect that he is monarch in name alone; that he can do nothing of his own initiative, and must perforce remain under the tutelage of the old woman who has for so many years exercised arbitrary power in his name. It is therefore readily conceivable that in writing to his brother, who has for a season at any rate escaped from the Empress Dowager's apron string, he should also declare his resolve to get free and act for himself. But it is to be feared that this perfectly innocent and laudable desire on the part of the Emperor to exhibit himself to his subjects and see something of the country beyond the narrow limits of Peking, will be balked by the Government. To begin with, it is improbable that the Emperor will be allowed to leave the Imperial Court, when it is established at Kaifeng, until at least the Empress herself is ready to return to Peking, and when that time arrives he will be watched most jealously. The Empress Dowager knows only too well that her power is secure only so long as she can control the movements and retain possession of the person of the Emperor. She must be well aware that the people generally are waxing impatient at the continued seclusion of the Son of Heaven and are anxious that he should again assume the reins of power. Only the other day a lengthy memorial emanating from the literary classes and gentry of the Two Kwang was sent to the Chinese plenipotentiaries at Peking urging in very strong language the wish of his subjects in these provinces

that the Emperor should be permitted to return alone to Peking and assume the Government, hinting not obscurely that unless this request was complied with the whole of South China would soon rise in rebellion. Nevertheless we do not believe the Empress Dowager will consent to the emancipation of His Majesty from her leading strings unless very strong pressure is put upon her. She will probably treat the veiled threat of the people of the Two Kwang as a mere *brutum fulmen*, and it will only confirm her in her obstinate determination to maintain her own personal authority paramount and supreme.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE PETITION.

(Daily Press, 16th October.)

It will be satisfactory to such of our readers as appended their signatures to the recent Petition to the Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding Hongkong's sanitary condition to know that the Chairman of the Petition Committee has received the following letter from the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary:—

"In continuance of my letter No. 1,708 of the 12th of last July, I am directed to state, for the information of the signatories of the Petition regarding the sanitary condition of Hongkong, that the matter is receiving the very full attention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies."

The news is welcome. We shall trust before very long to see the outcome of the attention of the Secretary of State, and in the meantime all signatories of the Petition are justified in feeling that they have contributed their share to the future progress of this Colony and that their efforts to make it a reasonably healthy place of residence for Europeans and others in the Far East will not be entirely disregarded.

EXCLUSION OF FOREIGNERS IN PEKING.

(Daily Press, 19th October.)

The action of the Chinese Government in reference to the prosecution by foreigners of trade in the capital can only be designated as petty ill-feeling. It seems that a number of foreign merchants and traders, encouraged so to do by the presence of the army of occupation, established hongs and stores outside the Legation Quarter. The Chinese Government, so soon as the evacuation by the foreign troops had been carried out, lost no time in addressing a note to the Foreign Ministers calling attention to the existence of these firms and stores, and requesting that orders should be given to them to re-transfer their business without delay to the Treaty Ports. Now it is quite true that Peking is not a Treaty Port, and that the Chinese are within their rights in refusing to allow foreign trade to be carried on in that sacred and odorous city. But, on the other hand, it could do the Chinese mandarins no harm to permit such trade to be carried on, and, as a matter of fact, a limited business in curios and stores was permitted before the recent murderous attack on the Legations. In Tokyo, too, before the Treaty of 1894 with Japan was concluded, by which the country was opened up to foreigners for trade and residence, foreigners were allowed to conduct trade. It is rather a remarkable circumstance that this privilege to trade in Peking and reside there was not included in the terms of the new agreement with China. We have just made a tremendous concession whereby payment of the indemnities will be rendered comparatively easy,

and practically we have got almost nothing in return. Unless the collection by the Foreign Customs collectorate of the native Customs at Treaty Ports be regarded as a special concession, we have practically gained nothing. The precautions taken to secure the future safety of inmates of the Legations cannot be so regarded; they are simply measures to prevent a recurrence of a savage attempt to wipe out the foreign representatives in the capital.

But the Chinese Government, which has, in some cases, been dealt with tenderly, and throughout with leniency considering the frightful nature of the outrage so calmly sanctioned, is, as usual, incapable of appreciating such consideration and simply sets it down to weakness and ineptitude on the part of the Western Powers. On the very first occasion, and without loss of time, the so-called Imperial Government have shown their teeth and in effect promptly reminded the hated foreigner that he need look to China for no favours in the future. It may be intended as a hint, perhaps, that the Dragon's teeth have not yet been drawn, and if so it may prove timely. We are wont to be far too easy-going, too prone to condone breaches of Treaty stipulations, to allow of strained interpretations of their meaning. After the conclusion of the Treaty of Tientsin, the Chinese Government commenced without delay to whittle down the value of its provisions by the imposition of fresh and illegal inland duties and by placing all possible obstructions in the way of trade with the interior, while even the Maritime Customs were recently instructed to make regulations that neutralised the value of the right to trade on the Inland Waters of China, only gained after prolonged negotiations and as compensation for many wrongs suffered and injuries unredressed. Indeed, the history of Treaty relations with China may be summed up as one long struggle to secure the recognition of Treaty rights. In no other country in the world, we imagine, has such a continuous fight had to be made against bad faith, corruption, trickery, and evasion. In none, probably, have valuable rights been lost and opportunities wasted to such an extent by want of perseverance and energy in dealing with this official obstruction and bad faith as in the Central Kingdom.

It might well have been thought, with the experience of the last forty years to guide them, that the Treaty Powers would have taken good care to obtain such guarantees for the fulfilment of existing Treaty provisions and the concession of such new privileges as are necessary to secure the smooth working of the Treaties. But it is to be feared that, while conceding to the Chinese Government what virtually amounts to the doubling of the tariff, the Powers have neglected to insist on the stipulations requisite to make the inland waters navigation a real benefit and the right to trade with the interior something more than a mere name. Such little matters as the right for foreigners to reside and trade in Peking, if so inclined, should also have been demanded, because, though the volume of such trade is never likely to be great, it ought, after the outrages of 1900, to have been insisted upon and efforts made to open up the Chinese capital to foreign influence as much as possible. This chance was evidently forgotten or overlooked, and the Chinese Government have accordingly been able to inflict their first check upon the intruding Westerns. We may be sure that, if the Empress Dowager continues to hold the reins, it will only prove the prelude to others. Every possible

impediment to enterprise in China will be trotted out and worked for all that it is worth. The Customs will continue to interpret the Inland Waters' Regulations to our detriment, and prevent any development of trade in the navigation of the West River and other inland waterways of South China. The mandarins will invent new taxes to take the place of *lekin*, and all the old struggles against illegal taxes will have to be renewed. This may sound very pessimistic, but a lengthened experience of Chinese ways and wiles and of the indifference or want of vigour of our own Foreign Office has taught us the folly of expecting much from an amendment of the Treaties. Blessed is he that expecteth little from either his own Government or that of China, for he will not be disappointed. Those who fondly think that the Boxer outbreak has cleared the air and straightened the way for reforms and improvements in China will prove to be greatly mistaken. The forces of progress in the Celestial Empire are at present very much under a cloud, and it is improbable that they will be able to make themselves felt materially for many years to come.

JAPAN'S PROGRESS.

(Daily Press, 15th October.)

Naturally, as an indication of the progress of a nation as compared with its neighbours, we look to the means provided for the movements of passengers and goods; and here the advance of Japan has been enormous within the past few years. The mountainous character of the interior of the islands composing the Empire has been a deterrent to the extension of railway lines through the country generally; so that but few trunk-lines exist except along the coast, where they have to stand the competition of coasting vessels. Notwithstanding this fact, the length of railways at work extends to 3,700 miles, while a thousand miles more are under construction. The number of train-miles run in 1899-1900 was 26½ millions, while the receipts amounted to 39½ million yen. Five years before, the length of lines open was 2,120 miles, and the receipts but 13¼ million yen. How the habit of travelling is growing on the Japanese may be inferred from the fact that whereas five years ago each individual took but one railway journey in the year, in 1900 the average had grown to upwards of two-and-a-half. Of these voyagers, it is interesting to note, but 33 were killed during the year, though this, through a single very serious accident, was vastly in excess of the previous average, which for the past five years had been only nine.

Still more remarkable as indicating the lines of advance adopted by the Japanese is the growth of their merchant navy, and it is important to note that the greatest progress has been made in vessels of the largest and newest types. In the early years after the "opening" of the country Japan was a favourite dumping-ground for old or unsuitable steamers which could return no profit to their owners. Now all this is changed, and we find the Japanese owning no less than 148 steamers of over 1,000 tons, the total tonnage indeed being 382,400. Most of these are new ships specially built to order, and of the highest type, while not an inconsiderable number have been built by the Japanese themselves in their own building yards. Not content with a merely coasting trade, the Japanese have occupied largely the Chinese and Korean coasts and rivers, and have stretched out to the United States, Australia, and India, and even opened a regular line with

Europe. Although in trade the English flag still holds the pre-eminence, it is important to notice how closely it is pressed by the Japanese. In 1895 the foreign trade done under the Japanese flag (imports and exports combined) amounted in value to but 7½ million yen; in 1899 this had grown to 139½ millions. During the same periods the trade under the British flag, 162 millions in the former year, had increased only to 186 in the latter. The next largest, the German, had grown from 36 to 42, while the rest had practically stood still or retrograded.

In the actual volume of the trade done with various countries, one of the most marked features is the enormous increase in trade between the two empires of China and Japan, which grew in five years from 32 million yen to 69 million. This trade, which indicates better facilities for trade on the part of both nations, is one that will excite the jealousies of none. With England and British dependencies trade had grown in volume from less than 96 million yen to 147½ millions: with the United States, the next largest customer, the volume of trade had grown from 63 to 102 millions. While, however, the value of goods taken by the States had only increased some 20 per cent., that of the imports taken by Japan had more than quadrupled. Items such as raw cotton and petroleum largely contributed to this increase, but in items such as machinery and manufactured iron, it had increased more than was justified by the conditions. The United States in these things enjoy a vast advantage in their proximity, enabling machinery and other goods to be laid down in weeks as compared with months from England; but to other and entirely artificial reasons must be attributed the growth in the imports from the States of rails and locomotives. Practically these are both subsidised trades, and are notoriously delivered abroad at prices which leave no profit, if not actually causing loss to the manufacturers.

An inspection of the lists of imports during the last five years exhibits a curious anomaly during 1897-98: from the tables themselves no explanation of the anomaly is derivable. In the years referred to the mean imports by English vessels amounted to a mean value of 124 million yen, as against a mean of 95 for the other years of the quinquennial series; and it might reasonably be supposed that this sudden increase of imports arose from some sudden demand. As a fact the explanation was less simple, and was caused by circumstances connected with the financing of the empire which induced a partial panic and led to a dangerous export of gold coin, which seriously hampered the circulation for the time being; the diminished import in the following year—1899—was thus a sign of returning confidence, a large proportion of the exported specie gradually returning.

Two graphic diagrams introduced at the end of the volume, which we alluded to on the 30th ult., and indicating the total amount and distribution of foreign trade in the years 1890 and 1899 respectively are of interest. The imports, which in 1890 were represented by a circle whose area was 5.66 sq. inches, had in 1899 grown to one with an area of 15.21 in. On the other hand while the exports in 1890 were represented by an area of 3.69 square inches, those of 1899 had grown to 14.52 in. In proportion, while England and British possessions occupied in 1890 a sector of 192 deg. this had fallen to 156 deg. in 1899; this was, however, accounted for by the parts occupied by China and the United States, which had

grown respectively from 38 deg. and 30 deg. to 46 deg. and 62 deg., the other countries remaining practically at a standstill. In exports from Japan taken by England and British possessions in 1890 the proportion was represented by a sector of 100 deg.; this in 1899 was represented by one of 102 deg. The United States, which occupied a sector of 128 deg. in the former, only appeared in 1899 for one of 105 deg., but on the other hand China took goods in the proportion in the latter year of 67 deg., as compared with 34 deg. in the former.

Looked at then from a British point of view, the prospects of trade in Japan present a by no means gloomy aspect; the profits of local houses have indisputably decreased; while the body of trade has as indisputably increased—and this all round, and in quite equivalent proportion to other nationalities. This is plain, even on the surface, where with the exception of an evident push made by the United States—more apparent than real—the British element is as much to the forefront as usual.

The tendency of recent events has been plainly to bring the two nations more and more into friendly contact, and the English visitor has in no way to look back with regret on the past. "Old Japan" of course has gone never to return, but "New Japan" has come in its place, and from an English point of view possesses many redeeming points of view. The country, if perhaps a little less picturesque, is certainly more solid, and possibly the most serious drawback that an Englishman finds in a residence is that by a sort of common consent he is by the Japanese Government and people expected to set a "good example" in manners and morals to the natives. This, although the immediate consequences are at times somewhat embarrassing, and generally partake of the ludicrous, is a high testimonial to the opinion formed of the English character by the Japanese—the more so that the testimony is perfectly unconscious on their part.

A PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION.

(Daily Press, 14th October.)

In the *Government Gazette* issued on Saturday there is published the notification of a Commission appointed by H.E. the Governor to enquire into and report on the following matters:—

1. The duties and responsibilities of the Public Works Department of Hongkong generally, with special reference to—

(a.) The constitution and sufficiency of the staff of the Department,

(b.) The advisability of increasing such staff or of making any changes in its personnel, and

(c.) Generally what changes should be made in the working of the Department.

2. The manner in which the duties devolving upon the Public Works Department have been performed during the period of two years preceding the 1st day of October, 1901.

The appointment of this Commission follows on the promise made in H.E. the Governor's speech on the Estimates before the Legislative Council on the 26th September last. The names of those now selected for this most important task are:—The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Hon. J. Thurburn, Colonel L. F. Brown, R.E., and Mr. Robert Shewan, the first-named acting as chairman, while Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe is to be secretary to the Commission. For the purposes of the enquiry the Commission will have the powers of the Supreme Court,

or any judge thereof, in the matter of enforcing the attendance of witnesses and examining them on oath, affirmation or otherwise, as the commissioners or any of them may think fit, compelling the production of documents, punishing persons guilty of contempt, and ordering an inspection of any property. The commissioners have power also to enter and view any premises. The examination of witnesses will, as usual, be held in private, and the report on the evidence collected will be laid before the Governor.

It is sincerely to be trusted that the new Commission may be able to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion as to what changes are needed to be made in the Public Works Department. There are no two opinions possible, even in the most official of minds, as to the total inadequacy of the present P.W.D. staff for the enormous amount of work requiring to be done. The Department is, as His Excellency reminded us the other day, the chief spending department in the Colony, and it is therefore all the more urgently needed that its work should be done in a thoroughly efficient manner. It has halted along for years now, utterly unable to cope with its duties. In consequence many of our public works are almost a byword among Eastern colonies—an extremely discreditable state of affairs in a rich colony like Hongkong. It cannot be said that there is anything startling about the composition of the new Public Works Commission, or that a revolutionary report can be expected as the result of its sittings. The official element is strong, and the non-officials are well-known to the public; there is no semblance of the agitator about anyone concerned. Nevertheless the state of the Public Works department so cries out for alteration that the most staid and sober of Commissions cannot fail to discover the main evils of the existing system and suggest improvements. What is most to be dreaded is that an attempt may be made to tinker up the old Department, which is seriously to be deprecated. We have been warned to prepare for extra taxation. Let us at least know that we are going to pay for something worth having. An improved Public Works Department would be costlier than the present Department, already the chief burden on the Colony. But this would not be grudged if we could see actual results for our money. When we look on the wretched roads, unstable buildings, and other such public evils as mark modern Hongkong, we may well regret having to pay what we do, light though our taxation be in comparison with other Colonies. The local public has been long suffering, even to apathy, but we do not fancy that it will be anxious to see taxes mounting and the old bad methods continuing. The present administration has an excellent chance of differentiating its rule from those of most of its predecessors, if it had only the courage to take it.

It is reported from Seoul that Major-General Wogack, of the Russian Army, who recently proceeded there from Tokyo, has lodged, through the Russian Minister at Seoul, a representation with the Korean Government, urging the necessity for establishing defences on the coasts of Chintai, Chinnan, Nanhai, Masampo, and on the islands of Kiye and Jekkei, as well as other important points of the country. The General is also stated to have added in his representation that, as the construction of forts at the above-named places is urgently needed, he will be pleased to endeavour to obtain for Korea an advance of money with no interest, in the event of Korea not being able to defray the necessary funds for the undertaking at the present time.

A DISGRACEFUL ROAD IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 17th October.)

The iteration of the remark that Hongkong is not as other colonies are is perhaps likely to become wearisome, but the fact nevertheless remains that we live in a city which is unique in many disagreeable ways. We have had occasion several times to remark on the disgraceful state of the road along the harbour front, from Blake Pier westward. Unfinished, unsurfaced, and used as a temporary dumping-ground for rubbish of the most miscellaneous character, it has for long been a curious spectacle for visitors to this growing Colony and a source of disgust to residents. During the height of the recent plague epidemic complaints were many and strong about the constant depositing of general refuse at the side of the so-called road in squalid heaps, among which the most miserable class of natives were wont to search for trifles which might be of use to them. Little or no notice was taken of the well-justified complaints even during the dangerous season. Now affairs are infinitely worse. It is a habit for boats with all kinds of objectionable rubbish on board, scavenged from native houses, to judge from appearances, to anchor at night in the neighbourhood of the Douglas Pier. The mere presence of these ill-smelling boats, no better than water dust-carts, has in itself, as may be imagined, a most polluting effect on the air. There are a number of Europeans dwelling in the vicinity, whose homes are thus rendered disagreeable; if not actually dangerous to health—though we should imagine that the latter danger is very probable. But this is not all. Large heaps are now constantly deposited on the roadside, near the Harbour, and lie there all day long. Whether these accumulations are deposited by the boats or brought down at night from the City we are unable to discover; of their presence there can be no doubt. Anyone walking yesterday down Connaught Road westward from Blake Pier might soon have satisfied his eyes—and nose—of this. A few yards beyond Blake Pier itself was a heap, or rather a series of small heaps, of decaying flowers and vegetables, old coolie-hats, wickerwork fragments, tins, broken bottles, and filth of all kinds. Then beyond the Douglas Pier was a far larger heap, which was close on twenty yards long, of similar garbage and general refuse. Among these wretched looking objects, adults and children were hunting, picking up such of the unpleasant collection as struck their exceedingly economical fancies. The air, as may be imagined, was unbearable in the neighbourhood, the most pleasing suggestion being that of a none too fresh onion somewhere in the heap. The scene was simply disgusting. We are informed that the Police state they have no power in the matter. May we ask whether the Sanitary Board is equally powerless? If it is not, how is it that the nuisance has continued so long unabated? Have the Sanitary Inspectors never the opportunity nor the inclination to go further west than Blake Pier? If they merely tolerate the abuse of decency which we have described, then they are neglecting one of their elementary duties. The existing state of affairs would not be a credit to a Chinese village. In an English Colony it is a scandalous outrage against the residents. It would be advisable for the Sanitary authorities to see that an end is put to it before the commission of experts reaches Hongkong. It is well not to let them receive too unfavourable an impression when they land.

NEW TERRITORY FINANCE.

(Daily Press, 19th October.)

With all due deference to the Colonial Secretary, we cannot agree that the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD's remarks at Thursday's meeting of the Council on the difference between the estimated and the actual figures of revenue and expenditure in the New Territory were misleading. They were not calculated to throw any light upon the subject, it is true. The Hon. Unofficial Member was asking for light, we imagine, not proposing to give it. As a matter of fact, the officials themselves threw no light at all. The Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART said:—"The report stated what 'the probable revenue would be. That 'revenue had not been raised; it was found 'impracticable to raise it for reasons which 'he did not propose to enter into them. 'With regard to the question of land, the 'Hon. Member must be aware of the great 'difficulties which the Government had had 'to encounter. It had met with obstacles 'which even one with his (the Colonial 'Secretary's) experience of Chinese had not 'foreseen. This was the first instance where 'a Western Government had attempted to 'take over a large tract of Chinese territory 'and administer it. Perhaps that fact 'would strike the Hon. Member with its 'full significance, and illuminate the dark- 'ness in which he now seemed to exist." We should be glad to see the full significance of the fact brought forward by the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART and to have our darkness illuminated, but we confess that our state of gloom remains the same as before the Colonial Secretary's attempt at illumination. As the Colonial Secretary "did not propose to enter into the reasons," we do not see that this is to be wondered at. No one is so foolish as to deny the great difficulty of our task in the New Territory. H.E. the Governor rightly pointed out that the existence of so many claims to land was the main obstacle in our way. He went on to say that until the man to whom the land belonged was found the Government, much as it desired and was entitled to revenue, could not say: "We want so much money on this land." Apparently, then, the enjoyment of the land during the two years of our occupation is to be left purely gratuitous. We hear nothing of any retrospective taxation on those whose claims have been confirmed or of any charge for temporary occupation on those whose claims are now found invalid. H.E. the Governor knows that there is such a thing as justice to oneself as well as justice to others; this is not less true now than in the days when PLATO wrote the *Republic*. If the Hongkong Government is determined to throw away money, to which it is entitled by the fact that the occupiers have had a two years' enjoyment of the land, then it cannot claim to be just—especially as the deficit has to be made up by us, the taxpayers of Hongkong. We should like to think that we are wrong; but there is nothing in any official or other statement to show it.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* of the 4th inst. says that the docking facilities which Japan offers for the repairing and overhauling of men-of-war are beginning to be appreciated by the different foreign nations, and that Germany now prefers to send her ships for cleansing or repair to healthy Japan in preference to Hongkong "which is plague-stricken the best part of the year." The German cruisers *Bussard* and *Hertha* have been sent to Nagasaki for repairs, and it is expected that the flagship of the German Asiatic squadron, the *Fürst Bismark*, will also shortly be sent to Nagasaki.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 17th inst. in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).
Major-General Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. H. E. POLLACK, K.C. (Acting Attorney-General).
Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).
Hon. C. McL. MESSER (Acting Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. W. CHATHAM (Acting Director of Public Works).
Hon. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).
Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.
Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.
Hon. J. THURBURN.
Hon. J. J. BELL IRVING.
Hon. Dr. HO KAI.
Hon. WEI A YUK.
Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Councils).

COPIES OF TELEGRAMS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table copies of a telegram of condolence on the death of H.I.M. the Empress Frederick of Germany, and acknowledgment by H.I.M. the German Emperor.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minute No. 62, and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 11), and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

SALARIES OF SUBORDINATE OFFICERS.

In connection with this Report the COLONIAL SECRETARY said—This Report deals with the Supply Bill, and the main suggestions contained in the Report will be considered when this Council goes into Committee on the supply Bill to-day. In addition to the matters dealt with in that Report, sir, a question was raised by the hon. member who represents the Chamber of Commerce on the Finance Committee, and I promised him that I would enquire into the point raised by him and let him know the result of my enquiries. The point raised by the hon. member was in connection with the salaries of subordinate officials in the Civil Service of the Colony, and he considered that a distinct promise or undertaking had been given that the subordinate officials' salaries should be dealt with forthwith. I have very carefully gone over the pages of the *Hansard* in which the question was considered, and I have failed to find anything of the nature of a distinct promise. I lay upon the table the memorandum I have been able to find in the *Hansard* dealing with this subject. At the same time I may mention that all the papers dealing with this subject of the salaries of subordinate officials show very clearly the desire of the Committee appointed to enquire into the salaries of subordinates that any increase that might be recommended should take place without any unnecessary delay, and this opinion was shared by your Excellency, because, in your despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, you recommended that the increase should take place from the 1st of January this year, but the Secretary of State did not see his way to approve of that. Now I think, sir, that the Supply Bill reveals a very satisfactory state of affairs, so far as the financial position of this Colony is concerned, and I desire to express the hope, which I am sure is shared by every member of Council, that your Excellency will see your way to make further representations on this subject to the Secretary of State, especially as a number of the representative heads and assistant heads were granted increases while the salaries of subordinates were being enquired into by the Committee. The Chinese employees also had received an increase. In view of these circumstances I trust your Excellency will see your way to make further representations in the

matter to the Secretary of States for the Colonies. (Applause.)

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Since last meeting of Council I have gone carefully over the *Hansard*, and looked up all that took place when the question was before the Council. Since then, too, I have consulted the Senior Unofficial Member and one or two others, and I have every reason to believe the Unofficial Members are unanimous in favour of your Excellency again urging upon the Secretary of State for the Colonies the expediency, upon public grounds—for the benefit of the public and of the public service—that the increase in the salaries of subordinate officers should come into force as from the 1st of January this year. The great increase in the cost of living and the immense rise in the price of the necessities of life must have been felt more severely by subordinate officials than by those drawing higher salaries. I heartily concur with the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, who has just spoken of the desirability of urging, with all your Excellency's force, upon the Secretary of State the necessity of granting the increase from the 1st of January this year.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—As far as I am concerned, as the Council would see when I sent forward the recommendation of the Committee, I heartily endorsed that recommendation myself. But I can quite well understand the answer from the Secretary of State; the Imperial Government possibly wished to see what the finances of the Colony were like. However, if it is desired that I should again bring the matter before the Secretary of State for the Colonies, I shall do so with the greatest pleasure. I will ask the Senior Unofficial Member if all the Unofficial Members are agreed that the increase should be from the 1st of January this year.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Sir, I may state that the Unofficial Members are unanimously of opinion that the increase should take place from the 1st of January this year, instead of January, 1902.

H.E. the GOVERNOR—Very well, I shall take steps accordingly. (Applause.)

REVISION OF STATUTE LAW.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for promoting the Revision of the Statute Law by repealing enactments which have become unnecessary and by making Amendments in various Ordinances.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Council thereafter went into committee on the Bill, and considered it clause by clause.

On the Council resuming, there having been several alterations, the third reading of the Bill was not moved.

THE LAW RELATING TO BUILDINGS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend the Law relating to Buildings.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Council thereafter went into committee on the Bill, and considered it clause by clause.

On the Council resuming, there having been several alterations, the third reading of the Bill was not moved.

MERCHANT SHIPPING CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the Council go into committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1899 (Ordinance 36 of 1899).

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Bill was left in the committee stage.

THE SUPPLY BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Three million seven hundred and thirty-nine thousand three hundred and twelve dollars and twenty-six cents to the Public Service of the year 1902.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Council then proceeded to consider separately each item on the Bill.

Governor and Legislature.

In moving the reduction of this item by \$100, Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said—

In the magisterial enquiry into the loss of forty-three lives caused by the tumbling down in August this year of the houses Nos. 32 and 34, Cochrane Street, the fact was conclusively demonstrated that the Public Works Department was grievously undermanned. In your address to the Council on 26th ult. your Excellency stated that the present financial position of the Colony is satisfactory, that on 31st December, 1900, the assets of the Colony showed a balance over liabilities of upwards of \$1,100,000, and that the assets by the end of this year would be largely increased. The undermanning of the Public Works Department can therefore not be due to any want of funds. This Department, so grievously undermanned, was largely, if not mainly, responsible for the faulty erection of the extra story on 32 and 34, Cochrane Street, the tumbling down of which houses caused forty-three deaths. The community would like to know who is responsible for allowing the said Department to become so grievously undermanned, and whether every precaution has now been taken to prevent the further construction of faulty buildings. Re the Memorandum signed by five of the Unofficial Members dealing with "Public Works Extraordinary," and laid before the Council on 22nd November, 1899, I may here quote the three concluding paragraphs:—

"17.—When we consider that in 1890 a sum of \$94,420 was voted for this Department as compared with \$91,402 in the Estimates under consideration, we are still further convinced of the inadequacy of the present staff."

"18.—That this Department, with which the vital interests of the Colony as regards sanitation, water-supply, and development generally are so inseparably bound up, should undergo reduction at such a time, we consider a serious matter, and we earnestly urge upon His Excellency to take immediate steps to put the Department on a footing commensurate with its extended duties."

"9.—We would suggest to His Excellency the desirability of appointing a Committee to investigate and report on the question of the staff of the Public Works Department, and we make this proposal because, as we have already stated, the policy hitherto has been to starve our public works, and we recognise the importance of providing a staff sufficient to carry on the large works now impending."

I would also refer to the concluding paragraph of my own Memorandum laid on the Council table on 30th November, 1899:—

"It is useless to plead the insufficiency of the staff of the Public Works Department as a reason for not proceeding with any urgent work or works. Extraordinary works should be provided for by the provision of additional strength for the Department or by special staffs. At present, with much pressing work on hand, the staff is being apparently reduced. It is certainly much less strong than it was ten years ago when the population was much less and the area of the Colony twenty-nine square miles instead of four hundred and twenty-nine square miles."

On 4th October, 1899, pursuant to notice, I asked the Honourable the Director of Public Works (Mr. Ormsby) the following question:—"Has the attention of the Honourable the Director of Public Works been directed to the *China Mail's* leading articles of 15th and 23rd August alleging the existence of jerry-buildings in Hongkong; will the Honourable Member inform the Council whether the said allegation is well founded; and if so, will he state what powers his Department possesses to prevent the erection of such buildings; what action has been taken by his Department in the matter; and if his powers are insufficient, is he taking any steps to get increased powers?"

The reply was as follows:—"I have read the articles referred to and think there is foundation for the allegations. The powers possessed by my Department are defined in the Ordinances 15 of 1889 and 25 of 1891. An officer of the Department, assisted by an overseer, inspects building works in progress. The exceptional amount of such work in the Colony at present makes an increase in the staff necessary if this work of supervision is to be thoroughly performed. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government." In allowing the erection of the extra story on 32 and 34, Cochrane Street the

Government appears to have neglected its duty to provide for the public safety, though the Unofficial Members gave warning of the reduced and insufficient staff of the Public Works Department when the Estimates for 1900 were before the Council in November, 1899.

In replying, the COLONIAL SECRETARY said that the hon. member had in his remarks carefully concealed the fact—of which he had been informed at the last meeting of Council—that His Excellency had appointed a Commission to enquire into the working of the Public Works Department. With regard to the question of increasing the staff of the Department, it would be within the recollection of hon. members, although apparently forgotten by the hon. member who had just spoken, that the late Director of Public Works, Mr. Ormsby, had stated that, with a few slight changes—which were afterwards carried out—the staff was quite sufficient. H.E. the Governor, however, was not satisfied that the staff was sufficient, and it was with a view of ascertaining what increase was necessary that the Commission had been appointed.

H.E. the GOVERNOR re-echoed what the Colonial Secretary had said as to Mr. Ormsby having stated that the staff of the Public Works Department was sufficient, and remarked that even so late as when he was going home Mr. Ormsby repeated that expression of opinion. The present Acting Director of Public Works, however, did not hold similar views. As to the voting of money, that and spending it were two very different matters. It was almost impossible to find labour on which to spend it. It must be within memory that in the earlier part of the summer work in this Colony was almost entirely stopped because, instead of three thousand workmen to do the work, there were, His Excellency had been told, not three hundred. That very difficulty was now being experienced in connection with the re-building of one of the police stations, and the Director of Public Works had been appealed to again and again to procure the necessary labour. As to the works that would in the near future devolve for their execution upon the Department, did the hon. member mean to suggest that the Government should at once appoint a number of permanent officers to enable the Department to carry out those works? That was not the policy that had been adopted. On the contrary, if it was possible in such works for the Director of Public Works and a reasonable staff to supervise them, that would be done; then, when the work was finished, the Colony would not find itself with an officer or officers for whom it had no work. This matter of the supervision of buildings was one that His Excellency had gone into very closely, and as to the responsibility connected with the lamentable collapse of houses in Cochrane Street, the Attorney-General had stated that no responsibility attached to the Public Works Department. There was nothing simpler than to say that the Government must go over all these buildings, but was the Government to take the whole responsibility off the shoulders of the architects and contractors? His Excellency had asked the opinion of a gentleman who probably knew more about buildings than any man in the Colony, the Senior Unofficial Member, and he had stated that a hundred men would not be sufficient for the work if the Government was to take upon itself the responsibility of seeing every brick put in right, every house properly built. The Commission that was shortly to sit would consider the whole question of the sufficiency or otherwise of the staff of the Public Works Department, and if it reported that the staff was insufficient, the Council would have pleasure in granting the funds necessary to augment it.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD did not press for the reduction of the vote.

Colonial Secretary Department.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD moved that this vote be reduced by \$100. He said—With reference to the statement of Revenue and Expenditure from June, 1898, to June, 1901, in the New Territory, it appears that the total revenue for those two years amounted to \$41,014.33 and that the total expenditure in the same period aggregated no less than \$736,571.34. In his report to the Colonial Office dated 8th October, 1898, the Honourable the

Colonial Secretary, under the head of Revenue, wrote:—"However, until further experience has shown in what manner revenue can be best raised without exciting the suspicion and prejudices of the inhabitants, it would be well to interfere as little as possible with the present system and sources of taxation. If this be done, it is anticipated that there will be no difficulty in raising at the start an annual revenue sufficient to meet the cost of administering the New Territory. The expenditure is estimated at \$125,000. To cover this outlay taxation to the amount of 1½ dollars or 2s. 6d. per head of the population will be sufficient," and added that when British rule was established, revenue would be greatly increased. Paragraph 23 of the Secretary of State's despatch of 6th June, 1899, reads:—"It will be seen from p. 13 of Mr. Lockhart's report that the total revenue from taxation of the New Territory is estimated at about £16,000, and this may be regarded as the income which you will have at your disposal for the first year or two at any rate. It should amply suffice to defray the initial cost of a simple administration which at first will amount to little more than supervising local bodies and protecting life and property." In consequence of the great difference which exists between the estimated and the actual figures of revenue and expenditure in the New Territory during those two years I think the Council is entitled to some further explanation that that yet given. The honourable member has been hitherto regarded as a high authority on affairs Chinese, and in a memorable memorandum relating to a petition to the House of Commons from members of the community in 1894 asking for an amendment in the constitution of the Government of the Colony, the honourable member claimed that most of the petitioners were notoriously ignorant of Chinese affairs, and that the customs and peculiar requirements of the Chinese were a sealed book to the British residents in the Colony, while it was notorious that the Unofficial Members were very ignorant of Chinese and Chinese requirements. The difference between the honourable member's estimates in respect of revenue and expenditure in the New Territory and the actual figures realised seems incomprehensible. I would like to know about when the revenue will come up to the estimate.

In reply, the COLONIAL SECRETARY said the hon. member's remarks were not calculated to throw any light on the question; indeed, they would appear rather calculated to mislead. If the hon. member had tried to read the report with the object of learning something, instead of finding fault, he would have seen that the report not only stated what the probable revenue would be, but also indicated that it would probably be found undesirable to derive revenue from certain sources from which it had been raised during the period of Chinese administration. Such had proved to be the case and certain revenue raised by the Chinese had to be abandoned. That revenue had not been raised; it was found impracticable to raise it for reasons which the Colonial Secretary did not propose to enter into then. With regard to the question of land, the hon. member must be aware of the great difficulties which the Government had had to encounter. It had met with obstacles which even one with his (the Colonial Secretary's) experience of Chinese could not have foreseen. This was one of the first instances in which a Western Government had attempted to take over a large tract of Chinese territory and administer it. Perhaps that fact would strike the hon. member with its full significance, and illumine the darkness in which he now seemed to exist. The hon. member had referred to expenditure. A reference to the report and the published statements of expenditure would show that most of the expenditure that had been incurred had not been recommended in that report. The Colonial Secretary would be glad to know if he had been able to find any mention in the report for instance of the large amount which he represented had been spent on police stations. If the hon. member would refer to the report he would discover that the Colonial Secretary's ideas as to the policing of the New Territory were that it should be done on much more reasonable lines than at present. Those ideas, however, were not accepted. Then there was a large expenditure on account of launches

for the Police and other purposes and on account of the Taipo road. So far as the cost of administration was concerned, exclusive of the Police, it was less than had been estimated in the report. The Colonial Secretary said he did not regard the hon. member's criticisms as arising from a desire to further the public interests, but they seemed to be prompted by a desire to make a personal attack on himself. (The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD dissented.) The Colonial Secretary said he was glad to hear the hon. member's disavowal, but he felt bound to state that he not treated the report fairly. The fact remained that the bulk of the report was true, and the Colonial Secretary challenged the hon. member to point out where he had been wrong. "Under British rule," he concluded, "this territory will prosper, and the money we have expended—money which the hon. member seems to grudge—will be money well spent, and will return to us fourfold." (Applause.)

H. E. the GOVERNOR said that in this matter the hon. member had a perfect right to say the expenditure was large. The reason it had been large was that up till the present there had been no revenue derivable from the New Territory; it was entirely a question of laying out. One important source of revenue in the New Territory would be the land tax, and the Land Court had been established for the purpose of settling ownerships and thus hastening the time when the tax could be levied. But the task was a very difficult one, because there were so many different claims to hear—clan claims, family claims, individual claims, all kinds of claims. Until the man to whom the land belonged was found, the Government, much as it desired and was entitled to revenue, could not say—"We want so much on this land." There was only one way of dealing with a man, and that was in a just way. (Applause.) Much money had been spent on the New Territory. There had been the cost of the road to Taipo, and that of the establishment of police stations, which were absolutely indispensable if the lives and property of people in the New Territory were to be protected. Then again, the Government had been obliged to spend a large amount of money on launches to prevent piracy round the two hundred miles of coast, and a large staff had had to be engaged for the purpose of demarcating property and so facilitating the settlement of questions of ownership of land. In view of all this, was there anything else the hon. member could suggest the Government should have done to obtain revenue? If the hon. member would consider for a short time, he would see that in taking over the New Territory it was absolutely necessary to expend money without any immediate prospects of remuneration. But any expenditure that brought the Chinese under British rule was not wasted expenditure, for by coming under our flag they would be treated with justice and consideration, as between man and man. (Applause.)

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—It seems to me very strange that it is estimated it would be possible to collect a revenue of \$160,000 a year, and in these two years it has only been found possible to collect \$40,000.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—It seems to be perfectly clear. You must remember the estimate was that a certain amount of land would pay a certain amount of money. So it will, and until that time comes we cannot do any more. The hon. member does not suggest we should insist upon someone paying us money for the land?

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—No, of course not. The reduction was not pressed for, and the vote was agreed to.

Public Works Department.

In moving a reduction of \$100 on this vote, the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said—The state of roads in the Colony in former years used to be favourably commented upon. For some time past the roads in the City of Victoria, Kowloon, and elsewhere have been far from satisfactory, in fact, their condition has been characterised as discreditable and disgraceful. As it cannot be for want of funds, will the Honourable the Director of Public Works inform the Council who is responsible for the unsatisfactory state of the roads and the condition of the Praya in the neighbourhood of Blake Pier as described

in this morning's leading article of the *Daily Press*?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—With regard to the roads, I am glad to be able to say that I agree with the hon. member that they are not satisfactory, and the fact has been fully recognised by His Excellency, who has issued orders that they are to be made satisfactory, and has asked to have a report thereon handed in in as short a time as possible. I am sure that all members of this Council are anxious that the roads of Hongkong should be a credit to us. With regard to the article in this morning's *Daily Press*, which the hon. member has so quickly acted upon, the matter therein dealt with has been referred to the Sanitary Board, which is the responsible body, and when the Sanitary Board has reported the hon. member, if he desires it, will be furnished with a copy of that report.

The reduction was not pressed, and the item was agreed to.

Legal Departments.

Discussing the vote under this head, the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said—With reference to the second magisterial enquiry into the collapse of houses 32 and 34, Cochrane Street, resulting in the death of 43 persons, the Crown Solicitor, in reviewing the evidence, submitted "that the persons to blame in the matter of the collapse were: in the first place, the architect on whose professional knowledge the owner relied, and who gave it as his opinion, without making any examination at all, that the houses were fit and good; secondly, the official responsible in the Public Works Department, who, without making any examination whatever, passed the plans; and thirdly, the head of the Department, who had allowed the staff in charge of the duties of the Building Ordinance to dwindle down gradually, although the work was increasing, until it consisted of Mr. Crisp. He had actually taken away the assistant engineer in charge of building work and appointed nobody save one overseer, who had just come out to the Colony and hardly knew the streets. In this way an Ordinance which had been very carefully framed had been allowed to dwindle down to a mere farce. Mr. Bowley, in conclusion, asked his Worship to bring in a verdict, in addition to his previous finding, that the deaths of these people were due to the adding of a new story to the rotten party wall, and that the architect who recommended the addition and the Department which sanctioned it were guilty of gross negligence." The magistrate's decision cannot be regarded as at all satisfactory. The collapse of the houses was not brought about by any act of God, and could have been prevented had proper inspection and supervision been exercised by those whose duty it was to inspect and supervise. Will the Honourable the Attorney-General inform the Council whether any further proceedings are to be taken in connection with that deplorable and avoidable disaster, so that those responsible for the loss of life may be dealt with in such manner as will act as a deterrent in the future?

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—With reference to the question which has been put by the hon. member, I have advised the Government upon that point, and the conclusion I came to was that there was no chance of a prosecution against anyone for manslaughter resulting in a conviction. Therefore I advised the Government not to enter into any prosecution for manslaughter.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—May I ask whether it was constitutional that the same magistrate should have presided over the second enquiry, seeing that his brother was one of the most important witnesses.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The magistrate need not have presided if he felt he could not do so fairly.

This concluded the discussion, and the various items of the Bill, with some alterations, were agreed to.

The third reading was not moved.

QUIET IN THE NIGHT.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend An Ordinance for the better securing the Peace and Quiet of the Inhabitants of the Town of Victoria and its vicinity during the night time (No. 17 of 1844).

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed. This was all the business, and the Council adjourned.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the COLONIAL SECRETARY in the chair.

There was only one minute to be considered, in which the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,500 to cover the cost of repairing and effecting certain alterations to the Government Pavilions at the Peak.

The CHAIRMAN—As hon. members of the Committee are aware, the pavilions at the Peak have been lent for some time to certain parties, and have been used for the purposes of the Peak Club. These pavilions were formerly used as a sanatorium or summer resort for Government officers, and these officers have petitioned the Government that they revert to their former status. His Excellency has approved of that, and the Peak Club has received notice. The pavilions want repairing, and the estimated cost of repairs will be \$1,500, the sum now brought before us.

The vote was agreed to.
This was all the business.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 17th inst. in the Board Room. There were present the President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer), Dr. F. W. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. F. D. Badeley (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Mr. Lau Chu Pak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock, Secretary.

SAMPLES EXAMINED UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ORDINANCE

The return by Mr. F. Brown, Government Analyst, of the number and the results of the examinations made under the Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance, 1896, for the quarter ended 30th September, shows that six samples of whisky and one sample of milk were examined. All six samples of whisky were genuine, but the sample of milk was found to be adulterated.

BANGKOK'S QUARANTINE REGULATION.

A copy of a quarantine regulation issued by the Acting Consul-General, Bangkok, Mr. Wm. J. Archer, was laid on the table.

NO PLAGUE AT TON KAH.

A letter, dated 18th September, from Mr. J. Stewart Black, Consul-General, Bangkok, respecting plague in Ton Kah, shows that the Siamese Government state that plague has now ceased there. A copy of the letter was laid on the table.

PLAGUE CASES AND DEATHS IN BOMBAY CITY.

A statement of plague cases and deaths in Bombay City from 3rd to 16th September was laid on the table. The total number of cases was 431, and the total number of deaths 514.

PLAGUE AT SURAT PORT.

A copy of a telegram reporting two fatal cases of plague at Surat Port, Longanon, was laid on the table.

PLAGUE AT CAPE TOWN.

Further reports regarding the outbreak of bubonic plague in Cape Colony were laid on the table.

BATAVIA QUARANTINES ARRIVALS FROM HONGKONG.

Writing under date 20th September, Mr. W. V. L. Davids, H.B.M. Consul, Batavia, states that the authorities there do not see their way to withdraw the quarantine against Hongkong, owing to the Netherlands Consul-General in this Colony having advised the Government at Batavia that Hongkong is still infected by plague. A copy of the letter was laid on the table.

MORTALITY IN THE COLONY.

The mortality statistics for the Colony for the week ended 28th September show a death-rate per 1,000 of 23.6, against 23.6 in the previous week and 21.6 in the corresponding week of last year.

MORTALITY IN MACAO.

The mortality in Macao for the week ended 6th October was 47. In the previous week it was 57.

This was all the business.

SIR JOHN CARRINGTON'S RETIREMENT.

FAREWELL TO THE VOLUNTEER CORPS.

After having acted for five years as Commandant of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps—five years spent in the arduous work of raising the Corps to its present state of efficiency, Sir J. W. Carrington, C.M.G., at a parade of the Corps at Headquarters on the 12th inst., bade farewell to the members—officers, non-commissioned officers, and men—of the body he has commanded with such marked success. The Corps paraded at five o'clock, a good muster falling in at the sound of the bugle. Preliminary evolutions, smartly gone through, having been completed, the Corps stood at attention as Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Carrington approached, to whom, as he finally stopped and faced his command, was accorded the general salute. Sir John then took his place at the head of the Corps, and, standing rigidly at attention, the entire force was photographed. Shortly afterwards H.E. the Governor, Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G., and H.E. Major-General Sir William J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., accompanied by their *aides-de-camp*, arrived on the parade ground, and were also received with the general salute, the band, too, striking up. H. E. the Governor, who is Hon. Colonel of the Volunteer Corps, was attired in civilian dress. The Corps was then drawn up in three sides of a square to hear the farewell from their chief.

Sir JOHN CARRINGTON, who spoke with evident emotion, especially towards the end of his remarks, said the parade had been ordered that he might address a few words of farewell to the members of the Corps—officers, non-commissioned officers, and men—on resigning the command. Before saying these few words, however, he must make acknowledgment, on behalf of the Corps and of himself, to H.E. the Governor for attending there on that occasion, and in that acknowledgment was included H.E. the Major-General Commanding the Forces. "It is a hard thing for me to say good-bye to you," continued Sir John, "because for the last five years the Corps has been very much in my life and my thoughts. I was appointed to the command of the Corps on the 14th of November, 1896, so that I have held the command for nearly five years. When I took over the command of the Corps there were only two units—the Field Battery and "A" Machine Gun Company; the number on the roll was 140. To-day, as we stand on parade, there are six units of the Corps and a band, and the number on the roll is 362. Now you quite understand that I take no credit for any increase in numbers, which was almost entirely due to the impulse of military ardour which took place in connection with the troubles in the Hinterland in May, 1899, and that impulse was maintained through the troubles in the North of China last year. But I cannot help thinking that great credit is due to the Corps, for though the causes which prompted the impulse I have spoken of have departed, the Corps has still kept up its numbers and its efficiency." Commenting on its efficiency Sir John reminded the Corps that the General Officer Commanding had declared it to be an efficient unit among the defensive forces of the Colony. Still, that assurance had been accompanied by the reminder that there was yet room for improvement. A great deal would have to be done in striving after proficiency, and Sir John trusted that the Corps would always remember that, and not be content to rest satisfied with the present numbers and the present state of efficiency. From the interest he hoped they believed him to have taken in the Corps during his command, he could honestly assure them that nothing would give him greater pleasure in the future than to hear that the Corps had kept up its numbers and had increased its efficiency. A good English Volunteer Corps, in the matter of efficiency, usually had as many as 97 and 98 per 100, sometimes quite 100, and there was no apparent reason why the same thing should not be said of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps. One way of attaining that standard was to maintain an *esprit-de-corps*—a feeling amongst the Corps that a man must be efficient. If he were not

efficient, the Corps did not want him, provided, of course, nothing prevented him from becoming efficient. That condition being eliminated, a man ought to be efficient. "And get that feeling amongst yourselves," counselled Sir John, "that a man must become efficient if he is to remain in the Corps." Referring to those who had helped him in the performance of his duties, Sir John said he desired in the first place to thank the officers of the Corps for the way in which they had all acted with him during his command. A better set of officers he thought it was not possible for any Commandant of Volunteers to have. They had given great attention to their duties, were efficient in the performance of them, and were thoroughly good comrades, both as regarded one another, as regarded the non-commissioned officers and men, and as regarded the commanding officer. "As long as memory holds its seat in my brain," continued the speaker, who was evidently deeply stirred, "I shall never forget the good comradeship and fellowship of my brother officers of the Corps. With regard to the non-commissioned officers and men, I have to thank them all for their consideration during the time of my command. They have all behaved to me in the way I should have wished them to behave, and I can honestly say that during the time I have commanded the Corps I have never had a rude word or an angry look from any member of the Corps. That is a gratifying thing indeed to look back upon. I wish I had been able to do more for you during my command, but at any rate I have tried to do my best for you, for I have been very anxious to promote the efficiency of the Corps." Sir John then thanked the officers and warrant officers of the staff of the Corps, whose performance of their respective duties he characterised as in every way excellent. "And now," he concluded, "I shall say good-bye. I shall always treasure the remembrance of my connection with the Corps, and I am sorry, very sorry, to part with you all."

In presenting Sir John with a handsome salver subscribed for by past and present members of the Corps, H. E. the GOVERNOR said:—Lieut.-Col. Sir John Carrington, I share with the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps their deep regret at your retirement from the command of the Corps. When you arrived in this Colony you were already an experienced Volunteer and Militia officer, your service as an officer dating from 1871 when you were an Ensign in the Oxford University Corps. You had also experience as a Major in the British Guiana Militia, a position that you held until you left that Colony for the Far East, so that your invitation to become Major Commandant of the Hongkong Volunteers Corps may be looked upon as the natural sequence of your long service. As you have told us, when you took over this Corps its strength was 140. It is now 362. What the condition of the Corps was when you assumed the command I do not know, but speaking in the presence of General Sir William Gascoigne, who will I hope add his testimony to mine, I am not afraid to say that you leave the Corps in a most creditable state of efficiency. No one knows better than I your unflagging interest in everything connected with the drill, discipline, and internal economy of your command, and I may say that when, on the augmentation of the Corps, it was my pleasant duty to promote you to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, I felt that I had never signed a commission more richly earned by faithful and diligent service. I have been requested by the members of the Corps to ask your acceptance of a souvenir that has been subscribed for by past and present members of all ranks. Although I am Honorary Colonel of the Corps I did not dare to come here in uniform to offer to you this presentation in the face of the regulation against presentations of this nature on parade. But I think that, without any fatal results to discipline, the Governor may allow himself the pleasure of being the medium of making this presentation in the presence of the Corps, of again expressing for himself and for every member of the Corps their regret at your departure, and, further, hoping that the rest that you are about to take from your onerous labours will soon fully restore your health that has been temporarily impaired by a long continued devotion

to trying duties that you have discharged to the entire satisfaction of the people of this Colony. It only remains for me to ask you to accept this salver from your old comrades, with every good wish for your future welfare and that of Lady Carrington and your family.

H.E. Major-General Sir WILLIAM GASCOIGNE then addressed a few words to the Corps. He said he could add very little to the sentiments His Excellency had so ably expressed. Sir John Carrington and His Excellency had been kind enough to consult him as to the propriety of the parade, but although the existing regulations rather discouraged presentation of prizes or the presentation of souvenirs to officers leaving the Corps, he agreed most thoroughly with His Excellency that circumstances alter cases, and, for one, certainly thought it would have been a great hardship if the members of the Corps had been prevented by a hard-and-fast rule from giving a practical exhibition of the esteem and affection in which they held Sir John Carrington. Therefore he advised His Excellency to come down and make the presentation. Continuing, Major-General Gascoigne said he had had the pleasure of serving with Sir John Carrington for three years in this Colony, and thoroughly agreed with the encomiums passed upon him by His Excellency. As to the Corps, he had already told them of their efficiency, and he would again tell them now, but, as Sir John Carrington had said, they must continue to strive to attain perfection. They must do their best, beyond which no man could do more, and in the attainment of their object they would in the future afford the keenest satisfaction to Sir John Carrington when he looked back on the efficiency of the Corps he had had the honour of commanding for so long. In conclusion, the speaker begged to join in the hearty wishes for Sir John Carrington for health and every possible happiness in the future.

On the call of HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR, who, doffing his hat, said to the men, "Take off your helmets," three cheers and a tiger were given for Sir John Carrington, who, in afterwards returning thanks for the presentation, said the souvenir would be to him the most treasured of his possessions. He concluded—"I won't say any more now, and may Heaven send its blessings to you, both as a Corps and as individuals!"

H.E. the Governor and H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, after shaking hands with Sir John Carrington, took their departure, and the parade was soon afterwards dismissed. In the Orderly Room Sir John's health was toasted in champagne by all the officers of the Corps. Later, headed by the Band playing "Auld Lang Syne," the officers escorted their late Commandant to the tram station on his way to the Peak. He left the station to the strains of "He's a jolly good fellow," followed by cheers. And so the Hongkong Volunteer Corps said good-bye to a Commandant whose popularity cannot easily be surpassed.

FAREWELLS IN THE SUPREME COURT.

In connection with the departure from the Colony of His Honour Sir John Worrell Carrington, Kt., C.M.G., D.C.L., LL.D., Chief Justice, a sitting of the Full Court, attended by the members of the legal profession, was held on the 15th inst. at 10 a.m. Sir John sat between their Honours A. G. Wise (Acting Chief Justice) and T. Sercombe Smith (Acting Puisne Judge), and the others present were the Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Acting Attorney-General; Messrs J. W. Norton Kyshe, Registrar; F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor; J. W. Jones, Acting Deputy Registrar and Appraiser; C. J. Xavier, Acting Registrar and Accountant; L. D'Almada e Castro, Clerk to the Puisne Judge; H. H. J. Gompertz, Member, Land Court; F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate; C. A. D. Melbourne, First Clerk at Magistracy; E. H. Sharp and Dr. Ho Kai, barristers-at-law; E. J. Grist, G. K. H. Brutton, K. W. Mounsey, J. S. Harston, F. C. Barlow, H. F. R. Brayne, O. D. Thomson, J. F. Reece, F. B. Deacon, H. L. Dennys, H. Hursthouse, G. C. C. Master, C. Ewens, P. W. Goldring, J. Hays, D'Almada, Wei On, and Tso, solicitors. The subordinate Court officials were also in attendance.

When all were assembled, the ACTING

ATTORNEY-GENERAL proceeded to address the Bench. He said—Sir John Carrington, on behalf of the legal profession in this Colony I beg to convey to your Lordship our sincere regret that you are leaving us and our high appreciation of the manner in which you have performed the duties of your distinguished office. When you arrived in this Colony over five years ago, it was confidently anticipated, from your previous record in the Colonial Civil Service, that you would bring to the discharge of the duties of your office that broad grasp of law and that independence, impartiality, and integrity which are amongst the highest attributes of the judicial Bench. Those expectations, my Lord, have been very amply fulfilled. There is also a matter in which not merely the members of the legal profession are highly indebted to your Lordship, but also the community in general, and that is the work your Lordship has accomplished in introducing into this Colony certain statutory enactments which will have the effect of bringing the law here up to date. There are very many Ordinances with which your Lordship's name will always be associated. They are almost too numerous for me to recapitulate now, but I may mention in particular the Criminal Procedure Ordinance, the Civil Procedure Ordinance, the Trustee Ordinance, and the Law Amendment Ordinance. These statutes, my Lord, will always remain as monuments to your zeal in the cause of law in this Colony. Furthermore, your Lordship has very kindly consented to bring out a new edition of the laws of this Colony which will be of immense benefit not only to the legal practitioners in this Colony, but also to the members of the general public, for I am firmly convinced, my Lord, that it is not merely for the benefit of the legal profession, but also for the benefit of the community in general, that the laws of a Colony should exist in a handy form acceptable to everybody; and, my Lord, although Lordship to relinquish your judicial duties in this Colony, perhaps I may be permitted to express the hope that when the Imperial Court of Appeal for the Empire is established upon a broad basis, His Majesty's advisers in such matters may recommend your name to His Majesty as one who has had a very wide and varied experience in many Colonies and under several different systems of law, and I am sure, if it should be the fortune of any of us to appear before your Lordship in that august tribunal, we shall always receive from you the same kindly patience and courtesy you have always extended to us during your occupancy of the Bench in this Colony.

In replying, Sir JOHN CARRINGTON said—Mr. Attorney-General, I have to thank you very sincerely for the kind words of farewell you have now said on behalf of the Bar, and I take it, also on behalf of the other branch of the profession. Your words, I think, Mr. Attorney, have been somewhat too kind, and you have rated too highly the services I have been able to render on the Bench of this Colony. When I first took my seat, Mr. Goodman, the Attorney-General, told me there had been several distinguished predecessors on this Bench, and I felt I had a hard task before me in endeavouring to keep up to the standard set by them. I cannot honestly believe I have risen to that standard, because unfortunately with me there are some very serious deficiencies in the matter of early legal training—deficiencies such as a man never perhaps gets over during the whole of his legal and judicial career. But you may remember that the Bar were kind enough to entertain me to dinner on my arrival in the Colony, and I then said to them that at any rate I would make sure that one thing should be done while I presided in this Court, and that was that I should endeavour to hold the balance fairly between the parties before me. I hope, whatever my shortcomings may have been, that at any rate the verdict will be that I have endeavoured to do these things—to take pains with the cases brought before me, to hear patiently the arguments that were adduced by counsel and solicitors, and to hold the balance fairly. More I will not claim credit for. If I have been able to discharge my duties, as you kindly say, to the satisfaction of the legal profession and the community, that result is in great measure, if not entirely, due to the assistance and co-operation I have received from my brother

judges, from the members of the Bar, from the solicitors, and from the officers of this Court. First as regards my brother judges: they have been my colleagues during the whole time of my presiding in this Court. I have never had the least disagreement or the least difficulty with them; on the contrary, I have had nothing but kindness and willing co-operation in the way of advice and assistance in every case in which I needed it, and I beg now very sincerely to thank them for the way in which they have helped me to discharge the duties of my office. I beg also, Mr. Attorney, to tender my best thanks to the members of the Bar for their great courtesy and consideration to me in all cases in which they have appeared before me in this Court. No one but a judge can know what a great assistance it is to a judge in making his opinion on a case to have the arguments fully and clearly and ably laid before him on either side. That assistance I have received always in full measure from the Bar. I am not going to say words of praise for the Bar, because perhaps this is not the occasion for me to do it. I will only say that although their numbers are not very large, yet, in point of ability, reputation, and efficiency they rank very high indeed, and I am very grateful to them for the way in which they have always behaved towards me. I may make the same remark with regard to the solicitors in quite as full measure. In Chambers, in the Bankruptcy Court, and in other ways have I come in contact with them, and have received nothing but consideration and kindness during the whole of my time here. The officers of the Court also have been most willing and ready to co-operate with me in the details of practice in Chamber business and Court work, and I beg to gratefully thank them all. No one but a judge can know again how much he must rely upon the efficiency of the staff of the Court in many matters of daily routine and practice. Before I conclude my remarks I should like to make reference to a distinguished practitioner in this Court, who is not with us to-day. You all know I refer to the late Mr. Francis. When I was ill in Japan and felt I should not be equal to the strain of my official duties, I thought, Mr. Attorney, there might be some function of this kind take place when I left the Colony, and I thought that on that day Mr. Francis, as an old and leading practitioner in this Court, would probably say a few words. But Providence ruled otherwise, and on my way down from Japan to Hongkong I performed the melancholy duty of attending his funeral at Yokohama. Mr. Francis will long be missed in this Court. He was undoubtedly an able advocate, and any client who retained him could count on having a very keen intellect at his services and a ready tongue, and I am quite sure that all you gentlemen who appear in this Court, when you are engaged in a heavy case, will for some time to come miss his excellent and ready antagonism. I will only now say that his memory will long remain in this Court as that of a very distinguished advocate. Now, Mr. Attorney, I have to say farewell to you all. I am very sorry to part from you. I had hoped that in the course of things I should have been a few years longer with you, but it is ordered otherwise. Now I leave the Bench of this Colony with the memory of five-and-a-half very happy and pleasant years spent among you. I thank you again for all your kindness and consideration, and I will never forget the pleasant relations that have existed between the Bar and solicitors while I have occupied the position of Chief Justice of this Colony. I have now to wish you all good-bye.

The Court then adjourned *sine die*.

The Chinese in the town of Bandon, in Siamese Malay, had a rather exciting fight one night about a month ago. The police got badly mauled about, but when the Governor turned up with armed men the rioters disappeared. One man lost a leg, another an eye, and the list of minor injuries was a very long one. Next day the leading Chinese farmer in the town sent the Governor some valuable presents, but they were returned with the intimation that the Siamese Government paid the Governor's salary, and that he did not require to have it supplemented by presents.

QUEEN VICTORIA MEMORIAL FUND.

OVER £12,000 SUBSCRIBED.

In connection with the Fund in aid of the Memorial to Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, a meeting of the Committee in charge of affairs was held in the Council Chamber on the 17th inst. H.E. the Governor presided, and there were present:—The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary; His Honour A. G. Wise, Acting Chief Justice; Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Acting Attorney-General; Sir Thomas Jackson, Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, Hon. Wei A. Yuk, Mr. R. Shewan, Mr. A. White, Mr. F. Maitland, Mr. A. J. Raymond, Mr. W. Poate, and Mr. Ho Fook.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY read the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee, after which the Hon. C. P. CHATER read the Treasurers' statement of accounts, which was as follows:—

Collected from the Government, \$50,000; from the Chinese community, \$48,584.63; and from the European and Indian communities, \$31,915.60, making a total of \$130,500.23. Of this amount the sum of \$12,428.23 has been collected to date. The expenditure is as follows:—Advertising subscription list, etc.—*Daily Press*, \$9.19; *China Mail*, \$9; *Hongkong Telegraph*, \$4.50; leaving a net balance of \$130,477.63.

Mr. CHATER added—It is proposed now, if agreed to by the members present, that the sum of £12,500 be wired home at an exchange of 1s. 11d., which will absorb \$139,434.77. The balance will be sent by mail as soon as the account is finally closed.

H.E. the GOVERNOR, addressing the meeting briefly, said he thought the Committee were to be congratulated on the result of their labours in the matter. The accounts just read showed that practically \$130,477 had been subscribed in the Colony, and that was very handsome indeed. In connection with the raising of that sum, His Excellency mentioned the names of a large number of European and Chinese gentlemen, members of the Committee and others, who, he thought, deserved the thanks of the community—they certainly had his most grateful thanks—for the way in which they had carried out their duties in connection with the Fund. It was his intention, he said, that day to wire home the sum of £12,500 as the amount of the subscription from Hongkong towards the Memorial Fund, and doubtless, when the subscriptions from the other Colonies became known, there would be no reason to feel ashamed of the subscription from this very important Colony in the Far East. His Excellency concluded by thanking again the members of the Committee for their work in the matter.

This was all the business.

FINAL LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Amount already subscribed	\$50,070.60
Hongkong Government	50,000
* Chinese Subscriptions...	29,134.63
Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.	250
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd.	250
Douglas Steamship Co.	100
Hongkong & China Gas Co.	100
A. Fucker	100
North China Insurance Co.	100
J. R. Michael	50
H. M. H. Nemazee	50
W. Bowdler	50
B. Byramjee	25
M. Stewart	25
Wai On Tseung	25
A. Ahwee	25
J. Brown	25
Dr. G. Apacible	20
Heurmann Herbst & Co.	20
Levy Hermanos	15
H. H. Gompertz	15
H. R. Brayne	15
A. R. Grieve	10
M. W. Scott	10
R. Kozhevar	10
B. E. Hanson	10
J. R. Wood	10
E. N. Irving	10
A. H. Chinoy	10
W. J. Tatcher	10

W. J. Newland	\$10
E. R. Hallifax	10
Huang Ping	10
T. A. Webster	5
J. N. Macdougall	5
W. C. Barrett	5
W. A. Sims	5
Total...	\$130,600.23

* We regret that we are unable to publish the names of these subscribers (some 900 in number) *in extenso*, owing to the other claims on our space.

A DISTINGUISHED JAPANESE IN HONGKONG.

General Fukushima, the leader of the Japanese troops in the Allies' march to the relief of the Peking Legations, and one of Japan's leading men of the present day, left this Colony on Saturday, the 12th inst. by the *Hongkong Maru* on his return to Japan.

Previous to his departure he called upon H.E. the Governor at Government House. He was received at the tram station with a special guard of honour of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, with band and colours, and proceeded to breakfast, when H.E. Major-General Sir W. Gascoigne, C.M.G., the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary), and Colonel the Hon. R. H. Bertie were among the guests invited to meet him.

General Fukushima first arrived here on the 10th, and left the same night for Canton on a visit to the Viceroy, returning here on Friday afternoon. General Fukushima has been on a holiday, but whether there is any political significance in his movements is unknown.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR AND KING LIEN-SHAN.

AN INTERESTING INTERVIEW.

A Macao correspondent writes to us:—

On Saturday, the 5th inst., King Lien-shan, who may be remembered as the Shanghai official who incurred the displeasure of the Empress Dowager a year and a half ago, had an interview with His Excellency Sir Henry Blake, and he has favoured his friends with a printed account of the substance of the conversation. The fact that, owing to his deafness, all conversation with him must be carried on by writing, rendered easy the accurate reproduction of what passed between them. He states in a little preface that the interview lasted more than an hour, and that His Excellency treated him with marked affability, accompanying him out of the door upon his leaving, and watching him get into his chair. It may be remembered that King had to leave Shanghai on account of a telegram sent to Peking, in which, at the head of a long list of representative Chinese, he protested energetically against the proposed deposition of the Emperor in January of last year.

Parts of the interview were characteristic on the part of the Mandarin, and accordingly not without interest. His Excellency expressed his esteem of his visitor, on account of the latter's efforts in founding a school for girls in Shanghai, as well as for his desire for the renovation of China in general. King gave it as his opinion, in answer, that the only hope for improvement of affairs in China lay in the friendly interference of some of the great Powers. Nothing was to be expected, he continued, as long as the government was kept out of the Emperor's hands. Speaking of the prospect of the Emperor's return to Peking, he remarked that the Emperor was about as much master of his movements as King was himself in the Macao fortress. He went on to say that things could not go well in China, as long as the principal wheel was out of gear; for while such was the case, the secondary wheels could not run together. Chinese men of ability might accomplish something, if they could only work together.

His Excellency then passed on to speak of his visitor's private affairs, and asked if he would be able to get back his property confiscated at the time of his flight. King answered in a philosophic spirit, worthy of his masters, the

sages of antiquity. His private affairs, he said, were of small moment by the side of his country's weal; just as in a storm at sea, it is the duty of each one to care first for the safety of the ship, before thinking of his own luggage. His Excellency then asked him if he intended returning to Shanghai immediately. He professed his readiness to follow His Excellency's advice in that matter, calling attention, however, to the fact that advancing age and infirmities naturally made him desirous of home. The Governor left him quite at liberty to do as he pleased, promising at the same time the best protection, as long as he might choose to remain in the Colony.

At the close of the interview, the visitor offered the Governor a printed account of his experiences from the beginning of his troubles. His Excellency received it kindly, and requested him to sign it in autograph, saying that he would send it home to Lady Blake, to be kept as a remembrance. Upon that the interview terminated with the usual civilities.

CONCERT AT KOWLOON.

That charity never appeals in vain in this community, when once it has been demonstrated that the object of that charity is a worthy and *bona-fide* one, has yet again been exemplified in the gratifying success of the concert in aid of the Hongkong Missions to Seamen which was given on the 16th inst. in the bungalow of the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., by St. John's Cathedral Choir. Perhaps of all tasks that of organising a charity concert is the most thankless, for if the promoters from any cause are unable to get together a first-rate programme, which, in addition, must go off without the slightest suggestion of uncertainty or hesitancy, the audience is sure to be critical. People forget often the hard work that has to be performed to make even a moderate success of such a function, and do not realise, it may be, that the result, if discouraging, is just as disappointing—nay, more so—to those responsible for the entertainment. These reflections, however, must not be taken as applying to last night's concert by the Cathedral Choir, for its success was undoubted. It could not well have been otherwise, however, for the Rev. J. H. France, M.A., the hard-working Chaplain to the Missions, found ready co-operation and assistance awaiting him on all sides. Just by way of showing what a great amount of "begging"—generous, whole-hearted begging—has to be done in connection with a concert of this kind, it may be stated that the Rev. J. H. France and Mr. A. Cunningham, who were responsible for the arrangements, obtained from the City Hall and from Mr. Ah Ling a sufficient supply of chairs to seat the audience, free; for the same price Messrs. Watson's, Limited, supplied the temperance drinks which were retailed on the grounds; the Egyptian cigarettes and several bundles of fans came from Messrs. H. Price & Company, also free; and Mr. Ah Ling, who had already contributed his share in the way of seats, further increased the indebtedness to him by lending the crockery for the dispensation of the coffee. The Robinson Piano Company lent the piano and the Hon. C. P. Chater the hall, the *Hongkong Daily Press* supplied the programmes gratis, and each of Hongkong's three papers advertised the concert on similar terms. The list is brought to a close by the mentioning of the fact that the "handy man" was not to be outdone in the performance of a good deed, and as he had no money to spare he came along, to the number of quite a dozen, and looked after the taking of the tickets, and so on.

The concert programme was an attractive collection of vocal and instrumental items. The arranging of the part songs had been left in the capable hands of Mr. Alec Marsh, who is making his farewell appearance in Hongkong: he leaves shortly for Canton, and after giving an entertainment there will proceed to Shanghai. The opening piece was a part song, "The Sea King," in which eight voices took part. This went off with an excellent swing, and was very well received. A pianoforte trio was the next item, the performers being the Misses King, Leykum, and Chunyut. The applause which greeted the conclusion of the piece marked the audience's appreciation of the

undoubted musical abilities of these young ladies. Mr. Alec Marsh next appeared, and was applauded on taking his place on the platform. Mr. Marsh, who sang "Hybrias, the Cretan," is so well known in the world of music as to make comment unnecessary. Suffice to say that he was never in better voice. In addition to being a clever pianist, Miss Chunyut showed herself to be the possessor of a soprano voice of good quality, and delighted her listeners with her rendering of that pretty song "Ashore." Mr. W. J. Terrill made a favourable appearance in "The Charge"; and in her song, "Come to Me," Miss Leykum was also heard to advantage. "Out on the Deep" received a capital interpretation from Mr. C. H. P. Hay. The interval came after a second turn by Mr. Marsh, whose singing of "A Japanese Love Song" was rewarded with applause as unstinted as it was deserved. As an encore he sang "Long Ago in Alcalá."

Tradition has given to the trombone a reputation not enviable amongst musical instruments, but the performance which, marked the opening of the second part of the programme proved that much-maligned instrument to be capable of great possibilities in the hands of a master. That this title belongs to Band-Sergeant Hunt and Bandsmen Thompson, Hughes and Green, the trombone quartette, was shown by their performance, which was loudly applauded: the blending of tone being first-rate. Mr. A. Cunningham's baritone voice was heard advantageously in Sullivan's "Thou'rt Passing Hence"—a song difficult of interpretation. The tit-bit of the evening was provided in the duet by Mrs. Yeats and Mr. Alec Marsh. Mrs. Yeats has a nice soprano voice of good tone and compass, and sings artistically, although not with the same volume as Mrs. Lowson, who was originally intended to take the part in the duet. The applause that greeted it was sufficient comment on the entire success of the duet. A quartette, "Sweet and Low," was the next item, and an excellent one, too. Mr. Marsh followed with a new song—one of his latest—"Song of the Tinker," for which he was encored. A clever cello solo by Mr. J. H. Moir, and a tastefully-given song by Mr. P. W. Goldring, who has a pleasant tenor voice, brought the audience to the last item on the programme—a part song, which was given by nine voices, with great success. "God Save the King" afterwards marked the close of what undoubtedly was a most successful entertainment.

The accompanists were Misses King and Leykum, Messrs. Marshall and G. Grumble, and all performed their functions with capability.

THE MEETING OF THE PLANETS.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

A rare and pretty phenomenon is the array of six planets in the western sky, visible these evenings, weather permitting, for a brief fortnight. The appearance at the same time, in the same part of the heavens, of six planets, that is of all, to be seen without the aid of a telescope, is a rare occurrence, though of far less interest to the astronomer than to the astrologer, if in this new century there be still any straggling adepts in that forgotten lore. Such a meeting of planets has not taken place for a century, perhaps not since the discovery of Uranus in 1781. They will come together again for another short fortnight next March, then they will part, holding on their several ways, never to be seen so close together again by mortal now living.

The six planets were seen together from one of the heights of Macao, for the first time, on the evening of the 4th inst., about forty-five minutes after sunset. Mercury was then far enough south to be free from the Lappa hills, and to appear just above the southern slope. Next came Venus, the queen of all, and a little higher up Mars, losing something of his angry appearance in the soft twilight. Next, about half way between Venus and Jupiter, was Uranus, to be picked up with the naked eye only by one with sight undimmed and knowing exactly where to look. Young persons, with the edge of the sight undulled, discover the planet with ease, when its position is pointed out. Then comes Jupiter, the giant planet,

on the eastern border of the Milky Way, and last of all Saturn, a little farther to the east. This display of planets will not be seen from the city of Victoria, nor I believe, from Kowloon, as the Peak will cut off Mercury, which is seen only near the horizon. About the middle of next week Mercury will be getting too low to be seen, and the present reunion of planets will be broken up. Moreover, the moon is getting high now, and when she is bright, Uranus can hardly be distinguished, even with the aid of binoculars.

What may not be the propitious horoscopes of happy infants born these favoured days under the light of six planets? But perhaps, alas, the ascendancy of the malignant Saturn mars the otherwise auspicious auguries. Let us hope at least that such a conjunction of planets this year portends, if anything, something propitious for the century; or, to speak more Christianly, we may hope that He whose glory the heavens show forth, and to whom the morning stars sing together, may grant poor mortals of this little planet many years of true and solid progress, with a minimum of war and bloodshed, ere the coming together again of the earth's sister planets in the western sky.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 16th October.

CO-OPERATIVE ENTERPRISE IN MACAO.
Emulating the example of successful public company formation in the neighbouring Colony, and stimulated by the success which a smaller undertaking has proved to its promoters, the directors of the "Empreza Economica" have had under consideration an amplified scheme taking in the parent company and enlarging its field of operation. In the draft memorandum of association which has been printed, and a copy of which is before me, the new company is described as a limited liability one, to be worked on the true co-operative principles, after the manner of the Rochdale workmen who set us the first example some sixty years ago. It is expected that a great deal of good will result from this new enterprise, the first, if we mistake not, in Macao, by leading young men to save money and to take that interest in the management of business affairs in this Colony now so conspicuous by its absence. It is proposed that the capital of the Company shall be \$60,000, divided into 600 shares of \$100 each. No difficulty is anticipated in the raising of this amount; indeed, my information goes to show that a far larger sum has already been privately subscribed. The head office of the Company will be at Macao, power being reserved to the Board of Directors (whose term of office shall be for two years successively) to establish agencies and branches at their discretion. In harmony with the principle of the undertaking the directors shall be paid only in proportion to the profits of the business, a sum equal to 10 per cent. of the net profits being set aside yearly for the directors' remuneration and of 3 per cent. and 2 per cent., respectively, to the sub-directors. As set forth in the memorandum of association, the company propose to deal in wholesale and retail provisions, tobacco, articles of dress, and others of domestic or ordinary use; to carry on the business of manufacturers of ice, aerated waters, etc., and to act as general and commission agents and warehousemen. The Company is empowered, for the last of the above purposes, to erect and to take leases of godowns, depôts, and other stores. An arrangement that can bring about the establishment of agencies here, through the medium of the Empreza, of some of the large firms of purveyors doing such profitable business in Hongkong, must surely be hailed with satisfaction. No one can be blind to the fact that at present, and many ters of years past, every cent expended in Macao has found its way into Chinese pockets. With a properly and energetically managed concern which the "Empreza" promises to be, offering goods at current market prices less rebate for cash payment and to shareholders, there should be no excuse for any money being spent in future that does not ultimately revert to the benefit of one's own nationals. Much as the

present prosperity of England has been attributed to the science which Adam Smith gave to the world in his *Wealth of Nations*, so, relatively speaking, in a smaller measure can the happiness of the integral parts of that excellent community of Macaenses be contributed to by a judicious individual expenditure—on the daily necessities of life—wherein not only the law but the right of domestic economy is interpreted.

WANTED A BUILDING ASSOCIATION.

Following in the wake of this society, any public-spirited gentleman, possessed of the necessary technical knowledge of the subject, will render a public benefit if he will formulate and put into operation a scheme for a Building Association in Macao. At present, available building sites are so very cheap that any plan would appear to be feasible. I urge this upon the attention of those whose domicile is here, because evidence is not wanting of the land-jobbing fiend already directing his attentions to Macao. The recent completion of certain sales of the most desirable European residences along the water-front and the tentative negotiations for further acquisitions at what would, only a few years ago, have been considered fabulous prices are indications that history like that which has been chronicled in Hongkong may be repeated at Macao.

AN ANNIVERSARY.

In commemoration of the anniversary of the birthday of H.M.F.M. Da. Maria Pia, to-day is observed as a public holiday. Official invitations have been issued to all the heads of departments (military and civil), to the Consular Body, and to public officers to attend a Requiem Mass to be officiated at the Cathedral on Saturday next for H.M.F.M. the late Dom Luiz I.

TROOPS FOR MACAO.

The troopship *Africa* is expected here shortly with a garrison contingent to relieve the men of the Expeditionary Force that has been stationed here for some months past. In expectation of the *Africa's* arrival, telegraphic instructions have been received by the local Government ordering the detention of all public servants desirous of returning home until they can take passage by the troopship. Similarly all luggage must be conveyed to Lisbon.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 10th October.

A SEDITIOUS PLACARD.

A fortnight has scarcely elapsed since the news of the outbreak against the mission stations in the interior reached us, when we hear of trouble brewing in some other quarter. It appears that at Tiet Shan, in the Po-Ning district, which is about 40 miles distant from here, and which was the scene of the late clan-fights, placards have been posted everywhere inciting the population to rise against the Government. The authors of the placards, who are unknown, give as their reasons that the Chinese officials oppress their own people, whereas they help and assist the missionaries. A white flag, purporting to indicate the villagers' hostile attitude, has been hoisted on a pole and exhibited in a conspicuous place. Albeit so far nothing has happened at Tiet Shan and no anxiety need be felt for the present, it yet behoves us to keep wide-awake as to what is taking place in the adjacent villages.

ACTION BY H. B. M. CONSUL.

I am informed that the British Consul has drawn the Chinese authorities' attention to the present state of affairs around here and to the issue of the placards at Tiet Shan.

THE CHINESE MAN OF WAR "FAH-PO" left this port for Canton on Sunday last.

FORMATION OF A RIFLE CLUB.

It is not so very long ago that I had occasion to remark upon the slow progress made at this port with regard to athletics. I am now pleased to state that we are making a move in the right direction. A circular was issued asking for volunteers to join in a rifle meeting. As the great part of the male residents so enthusiastically responded to the circular, it has been decided to form a rifle club, which, it is hoped, will be accomplished at no very distant date.

TONKIN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Hanoi, 10th October.

M. DOUMER GETS A COOL RECEPTION.

Governor-General Doumer arrived in Hanoi from Haiphong at 5 p.m. on the 4th inst. He met with a very cool reception, being welcomed only by the civil and military authorities assembled by order. M. Doumer will stop here some six or eight days.

SIAMESE VIOLATE THE FRENCH FRONTIER.

The *Independance Tonkinoise* has just received a despatch from the Laos country, announcing a violation of the frontier by four well-armed Siamese contingents under their officers, who are in pursuit of some Siamese officials who have fled into French territory with the taxes they have collected in their several districts. Considerable excitement has been aroused in Tonkin by the publication of the news, especially in Hanoi.

Latest details to hand at 6 p.m., when this letter leaves Hanoi, are that M. Gagnoscaux, Government Commissioner, has despatched a body of the *milice laotienne* to capture the invading bands, one of which is already taken and with its leader imprisoned at a place whose name has not reached us yet. The Governor-General is dissatisfied with the progress of affairs, and is sending telegram after telegram to the Laos country.

Further news will follow.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE SCALE OF WEIGHT IN HONGKONG RACING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

11th October.

SIR,—It has been decided to alter the scale of weight for inches for walers running at the next Hongkong race meeting to 2 lbs. per $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, and if the owners of griffins are satisfied it may be argued that criticism is useless and impertinent. I dare say it is, but still it is criticism, and as far as I can hear there was too little of that the other day, when the revolutionary measure was decided upon. I am sorry the change has been made, as I should have liked to see another meeting under last year's rule, or such a modification of it as would conveniently have adopted itself to fractions of an inch—say 1 lb. per $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, instead of the 2 lbs. which has been made the standard. The following are my reasons:—

In drawing conclusions as to weight for inches from the 1901 running, all ponies under 14.1 may as well be eliminated from the returns except *Rheingold* (14.0), and *Imperial Rose* (13.3), these being the only two which carried their scheduled weight for inches in any race. This was, of course, due to a scarcity of light-weight jockeys.

Out of the nine waler races at the last meeting in which starters were supposed to carry weight for inches with or without a penalty,

H. M.	
14 1	won 4 (including the Hongkong Derby)
14 2	" 2
14 3	" nil
15 0	" 3 (including the Waler Champion)

Considering that there were only three of them entered, this looks well for the 15-hand horses, and probably gave rise to the generalisation that everything went in favour of big horses, therefore the weight for inches was all wrong.

Let us pass that for what it is worth, simply remarking that *Rheingold* (14.0) beat *Glory*, the winner of the Waler Champions, in the Derby, and there is little doubt that, had he run, the Waler Champions would have been won by *Kismet* (14.1).

Now let us take the Waler Handicaps, six in number, in which I may mention that 13.3

always carried over-weight, owing to the impossibility of finding light-weight jockeys:—

H. M.	
13 3	won nil
14 0	" 1
14 1	" 3
14 2	" 1
14 3	" 1 (the Jockey Cup)
15 0	" nil

Let these figures speak for themselves.

On the whole I think the results of the last meeting by no means stultify last year's stewards to such an extent as some members of the sporting community seem to think, and I shall take the liberty of altering a remark by Veteran in your issue of to-day, to "any man who has had any experience of racing knows that it is the fittest horse which wins oftener than any other, and not the biggest."

Reference was made by Veteran in your issue of the 4th inst. to the rules of racing in the Straits and India. I say nothing about the Straits except that I have not seen any but horse races there, as contrasted with our galloway races, but the conditions of racing in India are utterly different from those that obtain here. In India subscription griffins are unknown. If a man buys a horse to race, he knows the rules he has to race under and he can pay any price he likes for it. In Hongkong owners simply toss up for their horses, all of which cost the same and are shipped as being to some extent of equal value for racing purposes, and there is no certainty that the man who wins the smallest will not get one that can beat all the rest at even weight.

In India too the average distance run is much less than in Hongkong. I recently looked up some Indian papers and found that at the last Poona Meeting, 20 races (as consecutive as the papers I could find allowed me to make them) averaged 5 $\frac{4}{5}$ furlongs as against an average of 7 $\frac{3}{5}$ furlongs for the waler races at the last meeting in Hongkong, and I may mention that the weight carried by the winners of these 20 races at Poona average 8st. 13lb., the lowest being 7st. 9lb. and the highest 10st. 2lb. The heaviest weight carried by a waler was 9st. 11lb.—Yours, etc., ONLOOKER.

THE SUBSCRIPTION TO THE MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

17th October.

SIR,—I see from a notice in your paper that a meeting is to be held in connection with the Fund to erect a memorial in London to Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and H.E. the Governor has consented to be present.

As a subscriber to the said Fund I shall be glad to learn, with many others, H.E.'s explanation as to why he did not state, when he initiated the public subscription list, his intention after that list was closed to vote \$50,000 of the colonial funds as an addition to such subscription?

I think this explanation is due to the community because there is no doubt that, had the public been aware that Colonial funds would be used to supplement their subscriptions, they would either have declined to subscribe or would have reduced the amount of their subscription.

It may also not be out of place to remark that the amount sent from this Colony is enormous, compared with the reasonable sum given by Singapore (\$10,000); and in face of the heavy expenditure the Colony is bound to be put to in connection with the Sanitary Commission and its recommendations, the Council had no right to vote such a sum.

In spite of the carefully prepared speeches at the super-loyal Council meeting when this sum was voted, the action of the members of the Council was distinctly unrepresentative. The community had already given very material evidence of its reverence for Her late Majesty, and needed not the extravagance of H.E. and Council to accentuate it. The sum voted—without reference to the subscribers to the public fund—could have been expended on many things in this ill-run Colony and been a permanent tribute of respect to Queen Victoria.

The action of H.E. the Governor and the ready acquiescence of the majority of the Unofficials would show that the next thing to be accomplished in the way of reform is the

re-organisation of the Legislative Council. It is preposterous to suppose that H.E. the Governor, backed up as usual by Mr. Chater, can play ducks and drakes with public revenue intended to be spent on the advancement of the Colony, whilst the other Unofficial Members sit by and gaze on, silent or indifferent. One cannot fail to be impressed with the fact that matters seem always to be as nicely "cooked" as the Council is nicely packed. To represent the ratepayers we have three bankers, two of whom come from one office; the biggest landowner and householders in the place; and a merchant, who is also a big landlord. Such constitute the Unofficials who are elected—not by the people—to represent the ratepayers, check official extravagance, and guard the civil rights of the community!

I am afraid I have wandered from the original point, but H.E.'s explanation as to his silence, whilst the subscriptions were being collected, concerning the vote which followed is awaited by many.

The explanation of the action of the Unofficials, the Hon. C. P. Chater's in particular, in acquiescing in this vote will likewise be read with interest.

Singapore gave \$10,000; Hongkong readily subscribed \$80,600, which was not enough in H.E.'s loyal opinion, who increased it with the consent (!) of the Unofficials by \$50,000.—Yours, etc.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.

The twentieth annual general meeting of the above company was held on the 17th inst., at the offices of the general agents, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., the Hon. J. J. Bell Irving in the chair. There were present: The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. H. P. White and F. Maitland (consulting committee); Messrs. E. Georg, G. C. Anderson, V. A. C. Hawkins, J. Hastings, E. C. Emmett, A. G. Morris, J. M. G. Pereira, J. Barton, K. McK. Ross, Hon. J. Thurburn, R. C. Wilcox, J. Orange, Ho Fook, Lo Chung Shan, Cheung Sam, Ho Jim Tong, Chen Sam, B. Byramjee, W. A. Chikshank, S. A. Joseph, J. Goosmann, and Geo. T. Veitch (secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, after which the CHAIRMAN addressed the shareholders as follows:—

Gentlemen, if you approve we will adopt the usual custom and take the report and accounts as read. It is with much pleasure the General Agents and Consulting Committee meet you with a favourable report of the out-turn of the 1900 working; it is such that, in addition to a 2 per cent. increase in the dividend and the carrying forward of an amount in excess of the previous year, we are also able to recommend the strengthening of the reserve to the extent of \$50,000 in which I feel sure you will concur. That fund will then amount to \$1,200,000. There is an item in accounts which perhaps requires explanation: I refer to our holding of United States Bonds. These Bonds have been written down from \$450,000 to \$400,000, which is practically par, so that there will be no further appropriations necessary on this account, the securities being intended as a permanent investment and necessary to hold in order to allow of our underwriting on the Pacific Coast. Their market value at the present time is roughly \$193,000 Mexican more than what they now stand at in our books. The amount invested in mortgages is larger than formerly, and brings in an average rate of interest of over 7 per cent. per annum, and our surveyors are satisfied that in every instance there is ample margin against the advances made. As regards the current year's working to 30th September, losses have been somewhat heavier than last year, but the balance at credit stands as \$509,591, and I am pleased to say that the further losses incurred since the publication of the report have been unimportant. If any shareholder desires further information I shall be glad to give it.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN moved that the report and accounts as presented be adopted.

Mr. V. A. C. HAWKINS seconded the motion with a few complimentary remarks on the

splendid working of the Company, and said he was assured that the policy of strictly writing down the assets adopted by the management, would be for the ultimate good of the Company, and trusted the same line of conduct would be continued. The proposal was carried, *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN, in referring to the necessity of filling a vacancy in the consulting committee, alluded with regret to the resignation tendered by Mr Gillies, who intends to retire from business entirely.

Mr. J. HASTINGS proposed that the temporary appointment of Mr. H. P. White in place of Mr. Lewis be confirmed, and that Mr. D. E. Brown be elected a member of the consulting committee in place of Mr. D. Gillies, resigned.

The Hon. J. THURBURN seconded, and the proposal was carried unanimously.

Capt. G. C. ANDERSON proposed and Mr. E. GEORGE seconded, the selection of Messrs. Fullarton Henderson and W. H. Potts as auditors. This proposal was also carried, *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN—This concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be sent out.

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the tenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Company, No. 10, The Bund, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 22nd October:—

The directors beg to submit, for the information of shareholders, the annexed duly audited statement of the Company's accounts to the 30th June, 1901.

1900.—An interim dividend of 5 per cent., amounting to Tls. 45,454.55, was declared on the 1st May last, and after deducting this from the balance of the working account, there remains a sum of Tals 256,191.94 which the directors recommend should be appropriated in the following manner:—

A final dividend of 5 per cent. on paid-up capital.

A bonus of 10 per cent. upon contributory premiums.

Tals 100,000 to be placed to the credit of the reserve fund, raising the reserve to Tals 360,000.

And the balance to be retained to meet further liabilities.

1901.—The balance of working account to the 30th June amounts to Tls. 216,802.60.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. W. D. Little, having returned from home, has, upon the invitation of the directors, rejoined the Board.

All the directors retire in accordance with the regulations of the Company, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. White and Wrightson, and, their term of office having expired, they again tender their services to the shareholders.

By order of the Court of Directors,

WM. GEO. BAYNE, Secretary.

Shanghai, 8th October 1901.

The following are the accounts:—

BALANCE-SHEET.

30th June, 1901.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To capital account:—			
5,000 shares at £25=	Tals.		
£125,000 0.0 at 2/8½	926,640.93	125,000	0 0
To reserve fund	260,000.00	35,072	18 4
To working account, 1900:—			
Amount brought forward from Tals.			
below	301,646.49		
Deduct—			
Interim share dividend	45,454.55		
	256,191.94	34,559	4 6
To working account, 1901:—			
Amount brought forward from below	216,802.60	29,245	15 4
To liability account for 1899 and previous years	84,569.15	11,408	0 7
To dividends uncollected	3,830.46	516	14 3
	Tals 1,748,035.08	£235,802	13 0

Cr.	£	s.	d.
By cash on current and deposit accounts in Shanghai	113,879.67	15,361	17 10
By Chinese Imperial Government loan of 1886 (E. issue)	18,750.00	2,529	5 11
By Shanghai Municipal loans	64,000.00	8,633	6 8
By Shanghai Land Investment Co.'s 6 per cent. debentures	65,320.00	8,811	7 11
By Shanghai Waterworks Co.'s 6 per cent. debentures	20,280.00	2,735	13 9
By Shanghai Waterworks Co.'s 5 per cent. debentures	9,600.00	1,295	0 0
By Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co.'s 6 per cent. debentures	5,200.00	701	9 2
By Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Limited	200.00	26	19 7
By mortgages on property in Shanghai	113,000.00	15,243	4 7
By London freehold premises	283,976.00	38,307	3 7
By London branch—balance, viz:—			
Cash at bank	£	s.	d.
ers	5,195	16	9
British Government securities	16,837	10	0
India Government securities	18,994	6	11
Colonial Government bonds	31,987	1	10
Chinese Government 5 per cent. loan of 1896	11,294	14	7
Chinese Imperial railway 5 per cent. loan of 1899	4,790	0	0
Japanese Government 4 per cent. loan of 1899	8,745	2	0
English railway securities	5,145	7	7
Indian railway securities	17,593	14	0
Canadian Pacific railway 5 per cent. 1st mortgage debentures	5,688	15	0
Furniture accounts—London & Manchester	325	0	0
Premia outstanding, bills receivable, policy stamps and drafts, in course of collection	8,571	0	3
	£135,168	8	11
Less—Due to sundries	5,067	3	1
	964,457.45	130,101	5 10
By Hongkong branch—Balance	19,631.30	2,648	3 8
By Yokohama branch—Balance	21,098.56	2,846	2 2
By Singapore branch—Balance	14,234.36	1,920	3 2
By furniture at head office, Hongkong, Yokohama and Singapore branches	2,548.21	343	14 10
By sundry debtors—Premia, etc. outstanding at head office and agencies	36,627.52		
Less—Due to sundries	4,767.99		
	31,859.53	4,297	14 4
	Tals 1,748,035.08	£235,802	13 0

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1900.

Dr.	Tals.
To net premia	680,314.26
To interest	56,390.51
To transfer and certificate fees	66.00
	Tals 736,770.77

Cr.	Tals.
By agency commissions	13,509.80
By charges at head office, branches and agencies	129,683.88
By directors' and auditors' fees	4,900.00
By income tax	3,789.17
By depreciation furniture account	253.28
By exchange account	9,866.94
By losses and claims	273,121.13
By balance carried forward	301,646.49
	Tals 736,770.77

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1901.

Dr.	Tals.
To net premia	337,184.66
To interest	30,823.94
To transfer and certificate fees	36.00
To exchange account	21,804.82
	Tals 389,849.42

Cr.	Tals.
By agency commissions	5,434.64
By charges at head office, branches and agencies	66,018.09
By directors' and auditors' fees	2,450.00
By income tax	915.83
By losses and claims	98,228.26
By balance carried forward	216,802.60
	Tals 389,849.42

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 18th October.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALTERING A STAMP.

Wan Kai Mi, a clerk in the employ of Messrs Lamke and Rogge, shipbrokers, was charged with (1) altering, on 18th September, one impressed stamp on a charter party from \$2 to \$8, and (2) with, on 19th September, uttering a forged and altered stamp on a charter party, well knowing the same to be forged.

The following jury was empanelled:—S. F. de Jesus, J. Helms, A. Brockelmann, J. Baggaridge, J. A. de Carvalho, J. M. P. Tavares, and A. McG. Beattie.

The prisoner pleaded guilty to both counts of the indictment, and after the Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Acting Attorney-General, had summarised the case for the benefit of the jury, his Lordship passed sentence of two years' imprisonment.

UTTERING A FORGED BANK-NOTE.

Lau Chun was charged (1) with altering a forged bank-note of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank with intent to defraud, and (2) with being in possession of a forged bank-note.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty to both counts. The jury was retained.

The Acting Attorney-General stated the case for the prosecution, after which evidence was led.

The jury consulted together for a few minutes in the box, and the foreman announced that by a majority of four to three they found the prisoner guilty as charged.

His Lordship, however, would not accept the verdict, as the majority was too narrow. On his suggestion the jury left the Court to consider their verdict, and on returning at the end of five minutes the foreman said that by five to two they had found the prisoner guilty.

Sentence of three years' hard labour was passed.

STEALING LETTERS FROM THE POST OFFICE.

Mai Kwai Leung was charged that he, on 12th September, being then a person employed by the Post Office, certain correspondence, to wit, four letters, the property of the Postmaster General, feloniously did steal, take and carry away, and also that he, on 12th September, certain correspondence, to wit, four letters, did secrete.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty. The jury was the same as in the previous case.

The Acting Attorney-General, addressing the jury, said the evidence for the prosecution would show that the defendant had been employed for some time in the Post Office. Formerly he had been on outside duty, carrying letters, but latterly had been kept inside and performed various kinds of duties, amongst others that of stamping letters—putting the cancelling stamp on them. On 12th September Mr. Gutierrez, an officer in charge at the Post

Office, heard another officer asking the defendant what he had in his pocket. The defendant said—"My pen-knife," and the officer asked—"Let me see your pen-knife." Mr. Gutierrez then came close up to the defendant, whom he saw put a hand into an inside pocket of his jacket and pull out the letter produced in Court. The letter bore a ten-cent stamp of the Chinese Imperial Post Office, and was addressed to a person in Bangkok. On the back of it was a ten-cent Hongkong stamp, uncanceled. Mr. Costa, a clerk in the Post Office, just then came in, bringing with him three letters (produced) which he had seen the defendant place in the Tamsui box, and which Mr. Costa took out when the defendant had gone. There were no other letters in the Tamsui box at the time, and none of the three letters was addressed to Tamsui. One was intended for San Francisco, another for Trieste, and the third for Nagasaki. Each carried an uncanceled Hongkong ten-cent stamp on its face. Mr. Costa had mentioned in his evidence at the Police Court that he saw the defendant throwing other five letters in a basket, but these letters were despatched to their respective destinations, and were not the subject of the charge now preferred against the prisoner. Concluding, the Acting Attorney-General said it would be suggested by the prosecution that the motive which prompted the defendant to steal the letters was that he hoped to make a little money by selling to someone the uncanceled stamps on the letters.

Evidence was heard, and the jury, without leaving the box, unanimously found the prisoner guilty as charged.

In passing sentence of twelve months' hard labour on each count, to run consecutively, his Lordship said that in his opinion coolies were trusted too much in the Post Office.

ARMED ASSAULT.

Pun Lok was charged on three counts—(1) that he, on 18th September, at Hunghom, being then armed with a sword, did assault one Kwok Sui and one Tam Tsui Sam, with intent to rob; (2) that on 18th September he did assault and beat one Kwok Sui, doing her bodily harm, and (3) that on 18th September he did assault and beat one Tam Tsui Sam, doing her bodily harm.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty. The jury that had sat through the other cases was again retained.

The circumstances of the case, as stated by the Acting Attorney-General, were to the effect that the witnesses for the prosecution lived in a house at 11, Dock Street, Hunghom. The head of the household, a blacksmith, was absent from the house at the time of the occurrence, which took place at half-past seven on the evening of 18th September. On that evening there were in the house the wife of the blacksmith and her daughter and daughter-in-law, also an infant child. A knock was heard at the door, and a voice called out the blacksmith's name. The daughter opened the door, and the defendant entered. He tried to shut the door, but the daughter prevented him from doing so. The defendant thereupon drew a knife, or sword, and on seeing this one of the women—the wife—rushed out crying "Save life." The defendant went up to the daughter-in-law, and struck her on the shoulder with his fist, afterwards threatening her with the knife. He next attacked the daughter, seizing her by the jacket and knocking her down. The girl rolled down the stair into the street. The people downstairs were alarmed by the noise, and rushed out. One of them, a cook, caught the defendant and gave him into custody. It was contended for the prosecution, concluded the Acting Attorney-General, that although the defendant did not take anything away he went to the house for the purpose of committing robbery, and was only prevented by the hue-and-cry that was raised. The defendant's story at the Police Court was that he was pointed out to the police in the street by the daughter, who singled out several men before she finally decided upon him.

After hearing the evidence of the blacksmith's wife and the two girls, and that of the cook who caught the defendant, the jury left the Court to consider their verdict.

On returning, after an absence of five minutes, the foreman announced that they unanimously found the prisoner guilty on all three counts. The sentence was five years' hard labour on the

first count and nine months' on each of the other two counts, the sentences to run concurrently. His Lordship remarked that there was too much of this form of crime in the Colony at present, and that he must do something to try to stop it.

The Court adjourned till Monday morning at ten o'clock.

SPORTING AND OTHER NOTES.

All the fixtures for the interport matches cannot be definitely made until we hear how long the Straits and Shanghai teams are going to remain here, but according to present arrangements Hongkong will play the Straits on the 11th and 12th, and the afternoon of the 13th will be kept for tennis. On the 14th and 15th, Hongkong will probably meet Shanghai, leaving the morning of the 16th free to finish off the match if necessary and the afternoon for the rest of the tennis matches. It is too early yet to say anything about the selection of a cricket team, as members have still three weeks' practice in front of them, and the selectors are not likely to pick their eleven until the last moment. It is the same with tennis—there is not much to choose between Pinckney and Pontifex, and Hancock is probably as good as either. The final selection will have to stand over until these three have played a few sets together and it can be seen who is showing the best form at the moment. The probability is that they are about level in singles and that Pinckney and Hancock will make the best combination for the doubles. Shanghai is no doubt bringing down strong teams both for cricket and tennis, and I hear they are willing to lay 3 or 4 to 1 on their Cricket XI, which shows great confidence considering the glorious uncertainty of the game. The Straits, on the other hand, are probably not over strong, as it appears that few, if any, of the Native States cricketers have been able to get away, and the team will be made up almost solely of Singapore players, and probably not nearly as strong as the last XI they sent up.

I have read with much interest the letter of "A Rowing Member" in your evening contemporary, and, although I am always open to correction, I believe the V.R.C. did try to get up a regatta last year and also the Boat Club, and the result of their efforts was an international race, a scratch four-oar race, and a tub-race held under the auspices of the Boat Club. Perhaps I should have said that neither Club could get up a regatta and finally the Boat Club held a few races confined to their members only, as mentioned above. However, I am glad to hear the rowing spirit in the V.R.C. is now reviving and that they are holding a regatta this year, and I hope the Hongkong public will be as much interested in the various competitions as they were in years gone by.

The owners of griffins decided to make an allowance of 2 lbs. per $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, and that is a fair allowance in these griffin-races, where the difference in height between the highest and lowest animal is so great. 13.3 $\frac{1}{4}$ is set to carry 10st. 2lbs. and 14.3 will therefore carry 12st. 2lbs., which is enough for any horse to race under. There are only four or five animals under 14 hands, and it appears to be hardly necessary to make the bottom weight as high as 10st. 2lbs.—it might easily have been lowered 4 or 5 lbs., as there are always a few riders who can ride about 10 stone or just under. As regards the letter in your issue of 12th by "Onlooker," the question is: Is it not better to work on the experience gathered in India and the Straits after several years racing than to try and prove from the results of one meeting in Hongkong that the Indian weights are all wrong. Hayes and other authorities in India, when the difference was 8lbs. an inch, said that difference would never bring a 14 and 14.2 together, and when the difference was raised to 12lbs. an inch they looked upon the scale in much the same way. How too is it possible to draw conclusions (if it is possible to draw any conclusions from the result of one meeting) when the griffins last meeting were such an uneven lot—three or four horses being of a much better class than the others.

As to *Rheingold* beating *Glory* at 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles, *Glory* could walk away from *Rheingold* at a mile, and the fact of *Glory* being a short or medium distance horse and *Rheingold* being on the other hand a stayer does not prove anything as to the correctness or otherwise of the weight per scale. It is no rare thing to find a horse that can give another several pounds at a mile and be utterly beaten receiving weight at 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles. I believe there are no pony races in Singapore now, but I am told that in the galloway and pony races in the native States and Penang (racing under the rules of the Straits Racing Association) they race under much the same conditions as in Hongkong, viz., 5 furlongs to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles and carrying 11.7 or even 12st. in the handicaps down to 9st. or so. In India I know the weights are less, and if they race with professionals there and carry 10st. 2lbs. and under, and thus run less chance of breaking down their animals, that is no argument as to altering the scale of weight. An animal 14.2 carrying 10 stone who can beat a 14 hands carrying 8st. 4lbs. is more likely than not to beat the same horse at differences of 11st. 10lbs. and 10 stone. There is no certainty, by any means that, the smallest griffin will not beat the rest at even weights, but that is only likely to happen if it is much better-bred than the others. A thoroughbred 14 hands with fair bone and stamina will in 99 cases out of 100 beat a 14-bred 14.2, but in the coming griffin races, where as far as one can judge at present there are 40 or 50 of the best animals of much the same breeding, I doubt if the smallest has much chance.

There is one sport, and a good sport too when rightly managed, that never has had any proper show in this Colony. Why, I am sure I don't know. I allude to cycling. Why is there no cycling track in Hongkong? Voices seem to buzz round at once. "Oh! it is not required, we have quite enough sport with our racing, our golf, our cricket and football, our polo and our lawn tennis, let alone other amusements which we indulge in at odd times, such as bathing, etc., without cycling on a track; let alone also the expense of such a thing." I know all that. I contend, all the same, that there are several who go in for many of the sports I have just named who are cyclists and who would come forward at once and, were any practical effort made, would go in for the thing heart and soul. "There's no sport in it," I can hear some say. Is there not? Have you ever seen good cycling, good races properly organised on a good track with good riders? I am getting on myself in years, but I can recollect many a good race at home in days gone by. The names of Joe Synner, Gatehouse, Adams, and many others, even now rise before one's mind as names to conjure with. They are the names of men who, one may say, began the sport; others took it up, and followed in their track—a countless host of others, too numerous to think off, hailing from all quarters of the globe. They found the sport fair to middling at any rate, but they had tried it. Some of Hongkong's people have tried it, and they who have, I feel sure, would not object to do so again; those who have not tried it, let them have a try. I think they would soon come to look upon it as capital good fun, and jolly good exercise into the bargain. One difficulty is, where is a place to be found for a track? I have already suggested that a very suitable spot would be round the football ground next to the Race-course. There must surely be ample room to get a 3-lap to the mile track on that ground. The football need not and would not be interfered with, the same stand would serve for both cycle-racing, athletic sports, and football, and the games could be played on the ground in the centre of the track. Access to the football ground by the players being easily afforded by an entrance either underneath the banking of the track or across a level part of it.

VETERAN.

The Philippines Educational Department has now an army of one thousand teachers scattered over the islands, of whom 765 are civilians and over 200 soldiers, detailed as fully qualified teachers to the Department of Public Instructions.

CRICKET.

Had punctuality been observed on the 12th inst., the probability is that the United Services would have been dismissed by tiffin time and the Civilians, going in fresh to bat, would have made a better fight of it. Another matter requiring attention and easily remediable is that batsmen should be ready waiting their turn to bat; much valuable time is wasted by breaking the two-minutes rule. *Verb. Sap!*

Saturday was a day of small things, so far as runs were concerned, for the rain in the night had furnished a bowlers' wicket. The fielding showed an improvement, we think, notwithstanding that it was not all catches which were held. But there is yet room for vast improvement, and we still miss that fielding attribute which can best be described as being on the tip-toe of expectation. That the onlookers can and do appreciate and encourage smart fielding is shown by the approval with which every piece of quick work in that line was received all round the ground. Apathy and something akin to disdain where fielding is concerned, are the chief blemishes in modern cricket, and Hongkong is, we are sorry to say, very much up-to-date in this respect. We don't want to rub it in too much, but we must re-iterate that the side which is nimblest on its pins, surest in its catches and quickest in its returns is our pet-side, because it best plays the game and stands the best chance of winning. There is no doubt also that the art of running between wickets is but little understood in Hongkong: the whole secret is efficient backing up a fast sprint over the pitch and a quick recovery to start for the next run. Every fielder and batsman ought to leg it as though he were fleeing for his life with a hue and cry raised around him. One more platitude, viz., the hitter calls for strokes in front of the wicket and his *vis-a-vis* for strokes behind the wicket: yet this, and decision in calling, are often not observed. We have ventured to state some of the axioms and postulates of cricket because, if they are not borne in mind, there can be no Q.E.F. or Q.E.D. correctly arrived at.

The United Services began to bat about 11.35 and opened with two R.W.F. Captains. Cadogan was run out by smart co-operation between Lee and Arthur. Rotherham played carefully till one from Doctor proved too good. Preedy hit hard and well for his useful 21. But it was Clifton Brown and Dorehill who showed the best batting form, the R.A. Major being particularly active. These two put on 25 runs very rapidly immediately after tiffin. Subsequently Clapham lunged out and got into double figures. The innings closed for 119, an unexpectedly small total, notwithstanding that such good bats as Dyson and Radcliffe could not play. Doctor and Mackenzie both bowled well. The former was not sending down so many loose balls to leg: if he can bowl as well on a hard wicket as he did on Saturday's wicket (and we think he will, for he is fast off the pitch), his inclusion in the local XI in November is probably assured.

The Civilians had an apparently easy task before them to knock off 119 runs, particularly considering that a wind had improved the pace of the pitch: perhaps the task was undertaken too lightly, for excepting Burnie who again, showed good form, not a man on the Civilian side did himself justice. True, Preedy bowled at a great speed, and in the main kept a good length with a useful short bumping ball at intervals: but that was not enough to account for the collapse, over which it is probably better to draw a veil and over which many a Civilian partisan experienced much anguish. In addition to Preedy, a new bowler, Morrison from the R.N. hospital, bowled and may be heard of again; he will be asked to appear again next Saturday.

When the Services batted a second time about 4.15, wickets fell fast and 7 were down for 52, thanks chiefly to the bowling of Doctor. But a respite was brought by Burke who finely trounced the bowling till he was given out caught at the wicket, a dubiously correct decision. At 9.5 Dorehill and Waymouth, partners in many a good match, got together and added over 30 before stumps were drawn at 5.30 p.m. The Major again played a sterling not out inning and with his comrade in

arms demonstrated how running between wickets should be carried out. Had the wickets continued to fall as at the beginning of the innings, it was on the cards that the Civilians might, by slashing hitting, have knocked off the runs at their second attempt, but the fates were not propitious. If they had been, that half hour lost at the start could have been most valuable. In two innings Doctor took 10 wickets for 89 runs, a gratifying result. The keeping of Arthur showed an advance upon last week's performance, we are glad to say. It is evident that unless two of the mainstays of last season's Civilians' XI show improved form in the next few weeks, their inclusion in the Colonial team in November next is a very doubtful matter!

By the courtesy of the Colonel and Officers of the R.W.F., their band played a pleasing selection of music on the ground during the afternoon.

It was a matter of much regret that the subsidiary match arranged to be played in the Happy Valley did not take place. When men have promised to play and thus precluded themselves from making other engagements for Saturday afternoon, it is, to say the least, annoying to learn that the fixture has been cancelled. We hope, however, that the present failure will neither prevent other like matches from being arranged for, nor deter men from consenting to play.

Appended are the score and analysis:—

UNITED SERVICES.			
First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Capt. Cadogan, R.W.F., run out	0	b Doctor	0
Capt. Rotherham, R.W.F., b Doctor	14	l.b.w., b. Smith...	0
Pte. Preedy, R.W.F., c Smith, b Doctor	21	b Cox	4
Lt. Krie enbeck, 22nd B.I., c Smith, b Mackenzie ..	6	l.b.w., b Doctor...	14
Lt. Ross, R.N., c Smith, b Mackenzie	0	st Arthur, b Smith	21
Lt. Clifton Brown, R.N., c Lee, b Mackenzie	25	st. Arthur, b Doc- tor	9
Comm. Woolcombe, R.N., l.b.w. b Doctor	7	c Maitland, b Doctor	6
Major Dorehill, R.A., not out	18	not out	28
Capt. Clapham, R.A., b Mackenzie	15	c Burnie, b Doctor	0
Lt. Baurke, I.S.C., b Doctor	3	c Arthur, b Cox ..	26
Capt. Waymouth, R.A., b Doctor	0	not out	10
S.-B. Std. Morrison, c Woodgates, b Mackenzie	1		
Byes 5, leg-byes 4	9	Byes 6, leg-bye 1	7
Total	119	Total (9 wickets)	125

CIVILIANS.			
First Innings.			
F. Maitland, c Dorehill, b Waymouth	0		
C. M. G. Burnie, c Woolcombe, b Morrison	30		
K. W. Mounsey b Preedy	2		
A. Mackenzie, b Waymouth	13		
T. Sercombe Smith, c Dorehill, b Preedy	9		
J. A. Woodgates, b Preedy	0		
J. E. Lee, b Preedy	5		
H. Arthur, b Preedy	4		
A. R. Lowe, b Preedy	3		
J. H. Smythe, b Morrison	2		
M. J. Doctor, not out	1		
P. A. Cox, c Preedy b Morrison	10		
Byes 5, leg-byes 1	6		
Total	85		

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

UNITED SERVICES.								
First Innings.				Second Innings.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
T. S. Smith	13	3	28	—	6	1	31	2
M. J. Doctor ...	21	6	46	5	11	3	43	5
A. Mackenzie ...	12	4	25	5	7	3	15	—
A. R. Lowe	2	—	11	—	—	—	—	—
P. A. Cox	—	—	—	—	4	—	17	2
J. A. Woodgates	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—
J. E. Lee	—	—	—	—	2	—	8	—

CIVILIANS.				
First Innings.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Capt. Waymouth	8	—	22	2
Pte. Preedy	13	2	43	6
Morrison	5-1	—	14	3

HONGKONG POLICE v. H.M. NAVAL YARD.

This match, played on Saturday, 12th inst., ended in favour of the Police by 2 runs after an exciting match. The following were the scores:—Naval Yard—Ormsby 4, Denny 19, Blewett 1, Gladwell 0, Brand 17 not out, Lee 2, Spurr 1, Henwood 1, Makoveyeff 4, Leek 0, Perrett 1, Total 50. Police—Lander 0, Pitt 11, McHardy 2, George 1, Reynolds 10, Withers 8, Winter 0, Quinn 11, Deveney 4, Wade 2, Jolly 0, Extras 3, Total 53.

HONGKONG BOAT CLUB.

SCRATCH FOURS.

On Monday, the 14th inst., a scratch race for four-oared boats between members of the H.K.B.C. was timed to come off. Three crews were entered, but at the last moment a member of one of the crews failed to put in an appearance—much to the annoyance of his boat—and the race was reduced to a match between the crews stroked by Messrs. E. A. Katsch and E. W. Carpenter, although Kennett's three men paddled down to the start. Katsch's boat, who had drawn No. 1 station, were on the spot punctually, but their opponents were no less than half-an-hour behind time—a fact which no doubt counted severely against the punctual crew. At 5.45 p.m., when the start was made, a tremendously heavy rain-storm came down, which caused the competitors to struggle against rain, wind, and tide, alike. On the firing of the starting-gun the Katsch crew, stroked by Carpenter, got away nearly a stroke ahead, but their rivals soon regained this advantage and were leading by half a length. Carpenter, however, was not to be denied, and though Seth started to take his men a long way out from shore they forged ahead. Before half the distance was completed, stroke in No. 1 boat was obviously played out, while Carpenter was going as steady as a rock. The excellent steering of Stevens to a certain extent neutralised this, but by the time the winning post was reached Carpenter was easily first—the official verdict was a length. Owing to the erratic course of No. 2 boat spectators on the launch were in doubt of the result. No blame, however, attaches to the cox of the winners, as the rain was positively blinding. Carpenter deserves every credit for the way in which he kept his crew in hand.

The arrangements were excellent, the Police being very energetic in maintaining a clear course under exceptional difficulties, while the launch for members and friends of the Club was admirably looked after.

Mr. A. Ellis was starter, Mr. A. Denison umpire, and Mr. A. H. Hollingsworth judge.

The crews were as follows:—

BOAT AND STATION.

No. 2.

J. Bosustow (bow)	11st 11lb
H. Heckford	11st 11lbs
H. L. Bingay, R.E.	11st 4lbs
E. W. Carpenter (stroke)	11st 7lbs
S. A. Seth (cox)	

No. 1.

F. C. Barlow (bow)	9st 9lbs
J. Plummer	9st 4lbs
C. Sherrington	12st 8lbs
E. A. Katsch (stroke)	9st 10lbs
G. R. Stevens, jr. (cox)	

From the *Sketch* of the 11th ult. we take the following:—The well-known saying anent the difficulty of catching a lie, once it has got a fair—or unfair—start, has once more been proved true. Thus, when General De Wet derailed a train at Honing Spruit more than twelve months ago, and two hundred British soldiers were captured, it was erroneously reported that the whole number belonged to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. As a matter of fact, only seventeen "Royal Goats" were among the unfortunate two hundred; but the error was repeated by a leading Telegraphic Agency, has been revived recently in a celebrated novelist's book on the War, and recorded by a Natal paper in its calendar as "Capture of the Welsh Fusiliers, 1900." Naturally, this has been resented by a regiment whose record is second to none in the British Army, and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir R. A. W. Colleton, commanding the 1st Battalion, on behalf of his regiment, writes from "the Front" to point out that of seventeen hundred of the "Royal Welsh" who have served during the War, in which the regiment has, as always, borne itself nobly, from first to last only thirty-six have been captured, and thirteen of this number were non-combatant invalids captured in a train playfully derailed by our "brother Boers." In justice to the gallant Welsh Fusiliers, Colonel Colleton's protest cannot be too widely circulated.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MACEWEN CUP, BOGEY CUP, AND POOL.

Although entries were up to the average, the excessive heat during the competition prevented the majority of members from completing their cards. The Captain of the Club did an excellent first round of 41, which enabled him to score a well deserved triple victory:—

MACEWEN CUP.

Mr. C. Palmer	90	—	9	81
Mr. T. S. Forrest	85	+	2	87
Capt. Clapham, R.A.	92	—	5	87

12 entries.

BOGEY CUP.

Mr. C. Palmer	receives 7 strokes 3 down
Capt. Clapham, R.A.	4 " 5 "
Mr. T. S. Forrest	owes 2 " 6 "

11 entries.

POOL.

Mr. C. Palmer	90	—	9	81
Mr. E. J. Grist	89	—	5	84
Mr. T. S. Forrest	85	+	2	87
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	85	+	2	87
Capt. Clapham, R.A.	92	—	5	87

13 entries.

HOCKEY.

The Indian Brigade v. H.M.S. *Ocean* on the 7th inst. was an excellent fight. Right up to the finish it was anybody's game. The Brigade just managed to win by two goals to one.

On the 10th the Brigade played the Royal Artillery, and the fastness of the game may be estimated when the score is considered, viz., nine goals to six in the Brigade's favour. Allowing for time lost in the ball going out of play, the average was a goal scored once in every three minutes. Possibly the weak half-back defence on each side accounted for this.

A NEW LIFE-SAVING APPARATUS.

Capt. Doenvig, owner of the Norwegian steamer *Bygoe*, a ship well known in this port, has invented a new life-saving "globe" with which he hopes to compete for the Pollock Prize of 100,000 francs, which is to be awarded this year. Capt. Doenvig's apparatus is, according to the statements of professional men, far above all other inventions for the saving of the shipwrecked.

Capt. Doenvig is in his 42nd year of age. From 1874 to 1900 he sailed in Indian, Australian and American waters, in 1883 rising to the position of a captain. He got the idea of inventing a life-saving apparatus after suffering shipwreck with the Norwegian vessel *Dictator*, on the coast of Virginia, where he lost his wife and his four year-old son. There were some large square iron tanks, which were thrown on shore, that gave him the first idea of his apparatus. This life-saving globe has the form of a round buoy which floats easily on the surface of the water. It has a diameter of 8 feet and can carry 12 to 15 persons; but the globes can be constructed larger if required. It has double bottom and sides in the lower part. There is room for fresh water, provisions, rockets, etc. The round form of the globe makes only little resistance against the sea, and the water in the bottom keeps it upright both on land and at sea. If the globe should be stranded it would by the flat shape of the bottom mostly stand upright. On the top the globe is furnished with a strong 4 feet-long telescopic pipe with different fittings for ventilation. The globe has also a sail which can be fastened to the airpipe, by which the buoy (which also has a centre-board) can sail in smooth seas. Through three manholes on the upper part of the buoy the shipwrecked can enter the interior. These manholes are fitted with packing and can be closed airtight. The light comes through a couple of skylights also in the upper part of the buoy. In the interior there are an air-pump, an exhaustor and a water-closet. There are also placed some floating poles, which are used to keep the shipwrecked persons in the bottom of the buoy; they can also be used as oars in calm weather. On the outside, round the middle of the buoy, there is a cork fender for protection

which also increases the stability and bearing capacity. The upper part is also protected by strong wooden arms. To the outside fittings there are also a rudder and an anchor, the latter resting on the cork fender and connected with 400 fathoms of strong wire rope, which can be coiled up on a drum. By help of this anchor one can anchor on a rocky coast during a storm, if it is impossible to land. The apparatus stands on rollers, so that it can easily be put overboard, and through its great bearing capability it will not be drawn to the bottom when the ship sinks. The buoy gives in the open sea a safe refuge for passengers and crew. On board it does not occupy so large a space as a life-boat which can carry the same number of men. With equipment and 8 feet in diameter the buoy will cost about 2,000 kroner. Capt. Doenvig has taken out a patent on his invention in most of the European countries and in America. Some time ago Capt. Doenvig had a small less finished model of his apparatus at the Paris Exhibition, for which he was rewarded with the Bronze Medal. With the new model he intends to compete for the Pollock Prize and goes on this occasion to Havre, where the jury, consisting of delegates from most of the civilised countries, will assemble.

TRAMWAYS FOR SHANGHAI.

The *N.-C. Daily News* of the 9th inst. says:—The Ratepayers' Meeting, held yesterday afternoon at the Town Hall, came to a decision which seems to point to the possibility of tramways being introduced into the Settlement after all. The resolution as advertised was proposed by Mr. W. Scharff and seconded by Mr. E. W. Dunning, and was followed by an amendment, proposed by Mr. J. S. Fearon and seconded by Mr. W. S. Jackson. As the result of some discussion this amendment was somewhat altered, and finally went before the meeting in the following form:—

"That the Council be and is hereby requested and authorised to consider such offers or tenders as may be submitted before the next annual meeting for the construction and working of tramways in Shanghai, and that they be authorised to accept any of the said offers and to settle the terms on which the tramways may be constructed and worked, including, if thought expedient, an option on the part of the Municipality to take over the undertaking after a certain time either on payment or free of charge. Provided that the Council shall not be authorised to construct or work the tramways as a Municipal undertaking, nor to pledge the Municipality to take over any scheme or to make any payment to the promoters or owners without receiving special permission from the Ratepayers."

This, on being put to the meeting, was carried by the large majority of 112 to 61. There was no demand for a poll. The verdict of the meeting was heard with applause, but with no outward sign of dissatisfaction from those not in agreement with it. It would be difficult to imagine anything more satisfactory than such a decision, were it not that the speech made by Mr. E. A. Hewett, the Chairman of the Council—who indicated the feeling of his colleagues on the matter—seemed to point to the disinclination of the Council to accept the authorisation of the Ratepayers. If Mr. Hewett's speech may rightly be interpreted to mean this, we have reached a position of some difficulty. The Council's next utterance is therefore of extreme interest and of the greatest importance.

On the 6th inst. H.E. Liu Kung-yi received an urgent telegram from Chinkiang to the effect that Kaoyu in Yangchow-fu, Kiangsu, was now the scene of disorder and asking him to send troops with all speed to suppress the rebellion. The Viceroy believed the news to be true and at once wired the Taotai of Chinkiang for more information. Investigation proved that all was quiet. He went at once to the telegraph office to enquire regarding the sender of the message. The office people told him that the person claimed the authority of the United States and British Consuls. But when they were appealed to, they indignantly denied all knowledge of the man, and he has not yet been discovered.

A NATIVE PAPER ON THE U.S. EXCLUSION BILLS.

The Shanghai *Shen Pao* discusses the invitation of China to remove the restrictions on Chinese immigration into the United States. Chinese workmen first went to America in the fifth year of Hsien Feng, which is 1855 of the Western calendar. The first year 3,526 coolies went under contract. The number gradually increased, until in the 13th year of Kwang Hsu 291,015 immigrants came from Asia, 12,004,203 from Europe, 147,080 from Britain and many from all quarters of the globe. Thus the Chinese were not the only people who went thither. People of all nations, hearing of the goodness of the land, flocked thither in hopes of improving their prospects. At length the old inhabitants of the United States began to grumble that the newcomers were pushing them out of the labour markets, and taking the bread from their mouths. The agitation finally took head when the Congress passed exclusion laws against Chinese labour, and notwithstanding the efforts of the President to protect the Chinese, there happened the murder of so many Chinese in Oregon.

Why, alas, asks the *Shen Pao*, is it necessary that our people should go abroad and make a living, instead of remaining at home? It is owing to their extreme poverty that they must leave home and fatherland, and brave the hatred of the peoples of foreign lands and Exclusion Acts. China has too many peoples for the size of her territory, and the emigration of these people tends to keep down rebellion. Besides this advantage, they send annually considerable sums to China, which help to restore the balance against China due to her silver going abroad to foreign countries. When there was talk of removing the restrictions great was the rejoicing among the Chinese. Recently some Cantonese got a foreign lawyer to petition H.E. Tao Mu to use his influence in behalf of the emigrants. But H.E. replied with a *non possumus*. The Japanese set us a fine example of how to manage this business. When there was talk of excluding the Japanese as well as the Chinese, the Japanese Consuls wired to Government and got authority to say that such action would provoke retaliation and Japan would have to exclude Americans from her borders. The matter was accordingly speedily dropped. But China cannot manage affairs so smartly as Japan. Unluckily there were Americans among the murdered missionaries last year, and the Americans are not inclined to relax their laws. "We have not much hope of anything being done, but we write this article in hopes that our officials will read it, and take to heart the condition of their subjects abroad, and devise some means to open to them a door of hope."

HONGKONG.

We are glad to learn that Dr. J. A. Lowson is on his way back to this Colony from Australia in improved health.

A Chinaman named Lo Tong, aged 36, fell down the bunker-hatch of the Blue Funnel steamer *Dardanus* in the Harbour on the 14th inst., and was killed.

"B" Company of the Volunteer Corps is to be disbanded, the reason being that as all or nearly all of its members are recruited from the Naval Yard their services would not be available in the event of the Corps being called up for service.

The many friends of Mr. A. M. Marshall will be interested to learn that he has been appointed to the post of Agent for the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co. at Shanghai, an advancement which will give satisfaction to them. Mr. A. Woolley, the P. & O. Co.'s Agent at Yokohama, who is now at home on leave, returns to Japan.

The return of Stamp Revenue for the months of September 1900 and 1901 shows a decrease for the latter month of \$5,065. The only item which increased largely was Charter Party, \$1,059.80; next coming Banknote Duty \$689.18, Bill of Lading \$482.70, and Policy of Insurance \$481.60. On the other hand Conveyance or Assignment showed a decrease of no less than \$7,042, and Probate, or Letters of Administration, declined \$1,403.50.

Mr. G. J. W. King has been appointed Acting Assessor, during the absence of Mr. D. Wood; and Mr. W. A. Crake, Acting Government Marine Surveyor, during the absence of Mr. R. C. Dixon.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week showed that 327 non-Chinese and 161 Chinese visited the former institution, 156 non-Chinese and 2,132 Chinese the latter.

The only cases of communicable disease notified as occurring in the Colony last week were two of enteric fever, one in Victoria and the other on H.M.S. *Tamar*, the latter patient being an European. One case proved fatal.

In the early hours of the 15th inst. a steam-launch belonging to Messrs. Watkins, Limited, was struck by a squall while moored in Hunghom Bay, and foundered. The crew were saved by another launch moored close at hand. The launch had on board a large cargo at the time, but the loss, it is understood, is fully covered by insurance.

The Football Shield Committee met on the 14th inst. and decided that entries for this season's competition must be sent in on or before the 29th November next. Six-a-side football matches were played on each day of last week excepting Saturday. The tie on the 15th inst. between Lowe and Goldring resulted in a draw—nothing all.

In view of the many enquiries made with regard to the new rickshas in the Colony, we may state that they are on exactly the same footing as the old. In fact, they are "first-class" only in so far as they are better-fitted vehicles. Coal-coolies, etc., are quite entitled to use them, so that we have yet to wait for the first-class rickshas which were spoken about last year.

At a special meeting of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace on the 15th inst. at the Magistracy, when Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate, presided, and there were present Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Acting Police Magistrate, Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, Chief Clerk at the Magistracy, and Mr. H. P. Tooker, an application by Mr. H. Ruttonjee for a publican's licence for the "Queen's Hotel," Elgin Road, Kowloon, was granted unanimously.

The following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th September, are certified by the managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$ 2,829,843	\$ 1,600,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	7,922,633	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	439,431	150,000
Total	\$11,191,907	\$ 6,750,000

The funeral took place at Happy Valley on the 15th inst. of Captain A. W. R. Cobban, who died during Sunday night or Monday morning in his house at No. 11, Knutsford Terrace, Kowloon. The deceased complained of feeling unwell on Sunday afternoon, and went to bed about six o'clock. In the morning he was found to be dead. The body was removed to the public mortuary on Monday, and a post-mortem examination showed that death was due to apoplexy. To heighten the sadness of the event, Mrs. Cobban died four days later at the Peak Hospital. The double tragedy has evoked much sympathy.

Mr. de Giers, the Russian Minister at Peking, and his wife and family were passengers by the s.s. *Hamburg* which arrived the 15th inst. He is on his way to Munich, to which place he has been transferred. An unpleasant incident occurred in connection with his visit to the Colony. He landed from the ferry with two of his sons, and the chair-coolies—as usual in this well-regulated place—rushed to the passengers, and secured one of the boys as a fare, and in the turmoil went off with him and were speedily out of sight. The lad was soon missed, but some time elapsed before he was found, having been carried beyond the General Hospital where the coolies dropped him and demanded money. Having none, they turned him over to a ricksha coolie, who was found with him in Queen's Road West. We wonder what our visitors think of the admirable police system which prevails in regard to chair and ricksha traffic in this colony?

The resurrected dredger *Canton River* has, we hear, been bought by the United States Government for use in Manila harbour.

During the quarter ending the 30th September the samples examined under the Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance were six of whisky and one of milk. The milk alone was found to be adulterated.

The boxing match between Bentley and Phillips is likely to come off at the Theatre Royal next month, and a fine contest is looked forward to by local amateurs. The number of rounds, we believe, is likely to be fixed at 20.

We were informed on the 14th inst. from the Colonial Secretary's Office that the Government of Indo-China has removed all restrictions against vessels arrived from Hongkong. The Chamber of Commerce and Messrs. Lamke and Rogge informed us to the same effect.

The German mail steamer *Hamburg*, which delayed her departure on Wednesday owing to the threatened typhoon, sailed south early on the 17th inst. By her there travelled, on their way home to England, Sir J. W. Carrington, C.M.G., and his daughter. The wishes of the Colony for a pleasant and not too eventful voyage go with them.

By the death at 4.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 16th inst. of Mr. A. G. Aitken, of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., the Colony loses yet another of its old residents, and one widely known and respected in Hongkong and its neighbourhood. Mr. Aitken first knew the Colony as a foreman engineer in the employ of the P. & O. S. N. Co., subsequently joining the Dock Co., in 1878, in the capacity of harbour foreman, as which he has done invaluable work. Last year he left Hongkong on sick-leave, only returning hither on the 1st inst. He had not, however, recovered, and his loss is now generally mourned, by none more than by his fellow-Scots—for he was Edinburgh-born and a well-known member of the local St. Andrew's Society. The funeral took place yesterday at 5 p.m. Much sympathy is felt for his widow and family.

The U.S. monitor *Monadnock* arrived on the evening of the 11th inst. from Shanghai.

On Saturday, 12th inst., the British hospital-ship *Carthage* left for Bombay and the U.S. monitor *Monterey* for Shanghai. On the 13th inst. the British transport *Pentakota* arrived from Calcutta, and the French cruiser *Styx* from Canton.

The French transport *Nive* arrived on the 15th inst. from Taku, and the British transport *Pentakota* left for Taku.

The British cruiser *Endymion* arrived in the harbour on the 16th inst. from Yokohama and the U.S. monitor *Monadnock* left for Canton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

H.M.S. *Alacrity*, with Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge on board, was at Kiukiang on the 6th inst.

Mr. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G., British Resident, Pahang, appointed to act as British Resident, Selangor, assumed the duties of his appointment on the 1st inst.

The Tientsin Autumn Race Meeting will be held on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th November. Seven races are arranged for each day, 17 of which are for China ponies only, according to the programme.

Pulo Way continues to be more and more frequented by large vessels, but the authorities are said to show little enterprise in taking advantage of this, and not much is being done to develop the island.

The agents of Smith, Bell & Co. and Warner Barnes & Co., the two largest British firms in Manila, have been ordered by the military authorities to leave the Island of Samar, says the *Manila Critic*. The true significance of the order has not yet appeared, although it is probably to give a clear field for an active campaign against the insurgents.

The charges of assault preferred by a Mrs. Frances Carroll against a boy employed at the Yokohama Station restaurant and a Japanese policeman, the alleged details of which were reported some time ago, has been dismissed by the Japanese Public Procurator on the ground of insufficient evidence. This case was made very much of in some of the English papers in Japan.

In Amoy harbour on the 14th inst. there were two British and two Japanese warships—H.M.S. *Astraea* and *Albion*, and the Japanese cruisers *Tatsuta* and *Suma*.

The Korean Customs have engaged three Japanese graduates of the High Commercial School to serve in the capacity of clerks. This idea is said to have originated with Mr. McLeavy Brown, but it is thought probable that Mr. Gubbins had much to say to it.

The Japanese authorities state that as a result of negotiations on the Honolulu quarantine affair with the United States Government, the Japanese Government has accepted the apologies tendered by the Hawaiian quarantine officer and agreed to regard the matter as closed upon the appointment of some lady doctors as quarantine officers at Honolulu.

According to advices from Vladivostok last month, the work of construction on the Manchurian line is being so actively pushed forward that the rails have already been laid from the north-west line towards Port Arthur. A large quantity of material is being transported for use in laying the western line, of which there only remains a distance of less than 300 kilometres to lay down. It is hoped that the junction of this line with the Siberian line will shortly be effected.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* states that the German community at Shanghai contemplates forming a German Concert Society, which will give three annual concerts, at which only the best productions of the great masters will be given, and thereby show that the Germans at Shanghai are both able and willing to contribute as much toward the promotion of social life in the international colony as the English and French have been doing with their Amateur Dramatic Club and Société Dramatique Française.

Among the noticeable items of outlay in the Straits Settlements Estimates for 1902 are, in Singapore, \$10,213 for contribution to the London Queen Victoria Memorial; survey of Singapore (on a \$200,400 estimate), \$50,160; addition to Central Police Station, \$50,000; erection of Court of Requests, \$20,000; raising of Elgin Bridge, \$30,000; harbour improvements (preliminary vote) \$100,000; One Fathom Bank Light \$60,000; reclamation and mole near Post Office, \$65,000; residences for Government Officers, \$40,000. Other large items are: Extension of Penang Government Offices, \$30,000 (on an estimate of \$50,000); Penang reclamation \$117,000; new Residency at Malacca \$25,000.

A Tacoma despatch of the 7th ult. says:—The Chinese employed in various capacities in the Canadian Pacific steamship *Hating* have given notice that they will quit their present employment as speedily as possible, in consequence of the *Islander* wreck. Some of their countrymen were drowned on that vessel, and the Chinese have gained the idea that in case of an accident they will not be given an equal chance for their lives with white men. The cook of the *Hating* informed Captain Gosse that his brother-in-law, who was a cook on the *Islander*, was shamefully treated when he tried to save himself. He was thrown off the life raft three times, and saved his life only by clinging desperately to it after getting aboard the fourth time. Two of the *Hating* Chinese employees left her at Skagway, and others will leave as fast as their places are filled.

The following telegram was received by Chinese officials in Shanghai on the 7th inst.:—The Empress Dowager and Emperor left Hsian this morning at about 9 o'clock by the out-gate, and passing en route the Pa Hsiennan, or Temple of the Eight Genii, in the Eastern suburbs or carriers. Their Majesties alighted from their conveyances and offered incense to the Genii [praying for a prosperous journey on the road]. Having done this, their Majesties continued the journey, and passed the night at Tungkuan—a city standing at the apex of the triangle formed by the frontiers of the three provinces of Shensi, Honan and Shansi. To set at rest any doubts as to the present ultimate destination of the Imperial Court it is necessary to state that it is bound for Kaifeng, where a stay of at least six months will be made by the Empress Dowager—perhaps much longer—while the Emperor will remain at least until the end of November before any move can be made for any other place.

Judge Kincaid, of the Court of First Instance at Manila, is said to be already disgusted with the affairs there as they exist, and has tendered his resignation, intending to return to his own private business and his native state of Texas.

The St. Andrews' Society at Kobe has decided, in view of a British national ball in that port having been fixed for the 9th November, to hold a Scotch ball on Burns' Day—25th January. The 30th of November is to be celebrated only by a dinner of the Society.

The announcement that H.E. Sheng Hsuan-huai has been appointed Commissioner to take part in the approaching revision of the Tariff, having for assistants Messrs. Hipplesey and F. E. Taylor of the I.M. Customs, is confirmed by an Imperial Edict of the 1st October.

The first issue of a new English daily paper, under the style of the *Yokohama Express*, was to make its appearance on the 10th inst. The editor of the new publication is Mr. Watanabe Genjiro, until lately the chief translator on the staff of the *Japan Gazette*. This makes the fourth English daily paper in Yokohama.

It was reported in Shanghai mandarin circles last week that H.E. Huang Tsu-lu, formerly Taotai of Shanghai, now Salt Commissioner of Chékian province at Hangchow, has received intimation from a reliable source at Peking that he is to be the next Minister to the United States in succession to H.E. Wu Ting-fang, now transferred to the Court St. James, vice Lo Feng-lu, time expired.

Four battalions of Japanese troops were stationed at Peking after the withdrawal of the Fifth Division, and one battalion was recently sent to Shanghai to relieve the marines previously stationed there. The Japanese authorities are discussing the advisability of reducing the number of troops in Peking still further; but the War Department opposes the idea, in the meantime at least, as the condition of affairs in North China is still far from being satisfactory.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 12th October:—All around are evidences of the need of rain. The heavy thunder showers which fell on Friday morning did good to the gardens, but much more is needed, and that before long, if the rice crop is to keep its present promise. The orange trees are showing the lack of moisture, and a quantity of the young fruit has fallen. Our autumn weather has been a disappointment so far. Since the middle of September we have had constant returns to summer heat, with a thermometer registering between 85 deg. and 90 deg.—We print elsewhere the programme of the Winter Race Meeting. From the list it will be seen that there are a great number of very handsome cups to be run for, and that, coupled with the fact that we had no meeting last winter, ought to put a large number of ponies in the field. Already considerable interest is being taken in the training, and a morning seldom passes without the presence at the Grand Stand of ladies. We are glad to hear that there are at least half a dozen old ponies to be got down from the north. From our Sporting Correspondent's note we gather that some of the griffins at least will make good racers.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	19,654,151	20,254,003
Kobe	—	—
Hiogo	—	—
	19,654,151	20,254,003

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 18th October.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 18th October.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Quotations are:—

Shenklong, No. 1, White	\$8.58 to \$8.62	per cwt.
do. " 2, White	7.65 to 7.70	"
Shenklong, No. 1, Brown	6.20 to 6.25	"
do. " 2, Brown	6.05 to 6.10	"

Swatow, No. 1, White	\$8.45 to 8.50	per cwt.
do. " 1, White	7.55 to 7.60	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown	6.00 to 6.05	"
do. " 2, Brown	5.90 to 5.95	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.60 to 12.65	"
Shenklong	10.08 to 10.85	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 18th October.—The prices are declining a little, market being weak. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.70 to 2.75
" Round, Good quality	3.90 to 3.95
" Long	4.10 to 4.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.75 to 2.80
" Garden, " No. 1	3.45 to 3.50
" White	4.05 to 4.10
" Fine Cargo	4.25 to 4.30

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 18th October.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 100 bales No. 8 at \$82.50, 1,450 bales No. 10 at \$84.50 to \$95.50, 5.0 bales No. 12 at \$88.50 to \$93, 300 bales No. 16 at \$87 to \$108.50, 1,700 bales No. 20 at \$101 to \$114.50. *Grey Shirtings*: 600 pieces 84 lbs. Blue Joss at \$3.45.

METAL.—*Nail Rod*: 8,000 bundles 1 x 6 at \$4.25 to arrive, 4,000 bundles at \$4.35. *Bar Iron* (round, flat, and square): 1,680 piculs at \$4.25 to arrive.

COTTON YARN—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.	\$75.00 to \$114.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24,	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24,	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32,	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42,	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.15
7 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30
8.4 lbs.	2.80 to 3.40
9 to 10 lbs.	3.45 to 4.55
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.35 to 2.60
58 to 60 "	3.05 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.05 to 5.60
Fine	5.15 to 7.45
Book-folds	4.15 to 6.15
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.73 to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y	1.60 to 1.80
7lbs. (32 "), "	1.85 to 2.15
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.82½ to 2.02½
7lbs. (32 "), "	2.72½ to 3.20
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.80 to 3.40
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.00 to 6.80

FANCY COTTONS—	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs	1.45 to 3.50
Brocades—Dyed	— to —
Chintzes—Assorted	— to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.50
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21 to 0.26
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	— to —

WOOLENS—	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.62½ to 1.70
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.35 to 8.10
Assorted	6.45 to 8.20
Camlets—Assorted	12.00 to 30.75
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches	11.00 to 17.00
Assorted	— to —
Orleans—Plain	— to —
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	2.50 to 4.00

METALS—	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.35 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.35 to —
Swedish Bar	6.75 to —
Small Round Rod	4.75 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	5.25 to —
Wire 15/25	8.75 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	7.50 to —
Australian	7.40 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	39.50 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	39.00 to —
Composition Nails	62.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00 to —
Tin	69.00 to —

	per box.
Tin-Plates	7.50 to —
	per cwt. case
Steel ½ to ¾	5.75 to —
New Chops 14/20 oz.	— to —

UNDRILES—	per picul
Quicksilver	166.00 to —
	per box.
Window Glass	6.30 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil	2.05 to —

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Hakata Maru* (str.), *Awa Maru* (str.).

FOR LONDON.—*Bengal* (str.), *Canton* (str.), *Calchas* (str.), *Awa Maru* (str.), *Nestor* (str.), *Machaon* (str.), *Hakata Maru* (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Dardanus* (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Laos* (str.), *Hakata Maru* (str.), *Awa Maru* (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—*Sachsen* (str.), *Königsberg* (str.), *Segovia* (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Königsberg* (str.), *Segovia* (str.), *Suevia* (str.), *Serbia* (str.), *Bamberg* (str.), *Marburg* (str.), *Nuernburg* (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Glenogle* (str.), *Kinshiu Maru* (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of China* (str.), *Tartar* (str.).

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—*Nippon Maru* (str.), *China* (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—*Satsuma* (str.), *Claverdale* (str.), *Manuel Llaguno*, *Adana* (str.), *Asama* (str.).

FOR SAN DIEGO.—*Strathgyle* (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Changsha* (str.), *Yawata Maru* (str.), *Australian* (str.).

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 18th October.—A moderate business has been transacted during the week under review, and rates in many instances have improved.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled somewhat easier than before, but no material change is made in the rate, which stands at \$620 sellers. The London quotation is unchanged at £62. 5s. 0d. Nationals are on offer at quotations.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have improved to \$325 with sales and further buyers. China Traders sold at \$60 and are obtainable at the rate. North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 190. Canton Insurances are in demand at \$155 ex the dividend of \$13 for 1900, paid this day.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have improved to \$355 and are wanted. China Fires sold at \$84 and are now enquired for at \$84½.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao sold at \$34½ and are in further request. Indo-Chinas have been placed at \$147, \$148 and \$149, and \$150 is now asked. China-Manilas are steady at \$60. Douglasses have sold at \$47 and there are further sellers. Star Ferries (old) are wanted at \$24½; the new shares are obtainable at \$9½. Shell Transports are offering at the reduced rate of £2. 5s. 0d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars sold and are enquired for at \$150. Luzons have further declined to \$27 with sellers.

MINING.—Punjoms have receded to \$4½ with sellers. Jelebus are wanted at \$4½. Raubs are obtainable at \$14.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa have sold at \$290 and \$287½, and are in request at the latter rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have declined to \$97, with sellers. New Amoy Docks are quiet at \$25.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been placed at \$193 and are still offering. Kowloon Lands are quiet at \$31½. West Points have been placed at the improved rate of \$60, and are still wanted. Hongkong Hotels have sold at improving rates from \$133 to \$136 and are in demand at the higher figure. Humphreys Estates are in demand at \$13½.

COTTON MILLS.—There are no changes to report in the quotations for the northern mills. Hongkong Cottons have advanced to \$13 with buyers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have improved to \$22 with buyers. A. S. Watsons have sold at \$16 and are offering. Electrics are wanted at \$13 (old) and \$6½ (new). Ropes have buyers at \$175. Tramways are in request at \$280. China Providents are in the market at \$9½. Alhambra Cigars have further declined to \$500 nominal.

MEMOS.—William Powell, Limited, statutory general meeting to-morrow, the 19th instant. Punjom Mining Company, Limited, notify that a final call of \$1 per share is due on the 15th November next.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ \$620, sellers L'don, £62. 5s.
China & Japan, ordy.	24	15s.
Do. deferred	21	25. 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$28, sellers
B. Shares	28	\$28, sellers
Foun. Shares...	21	\$15, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	\$1.10.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$38.
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9½, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$150, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited...	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.)	\$50	\$50, nominal.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 40, buyers.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 35, buyers
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 42½, buyers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 260.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 11.
Hongkong	\$100	\$13, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$8, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$22, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	210	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric {	\$10	\$13, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$280, buyers
Hk. Steam Water } boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$138, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$183, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$97, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$175, sales & buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$287½, buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$155, ex div., buys.
China Fire	\$20	\$8½, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$60, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$355, buyers
North China	225	Tls. 190, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$325, sales & buys.
Yangtze	\$80	\$120, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$193, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$13½, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$31½.
West Point Building	\$50	\$60, sales & buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$27, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$325.
Jebebu	\$5	\$4½, buyers
Queen's Mines, Ltd.	25c.	4 cents, sales
Olivers Mines, A....	\$5	nominal.
Do. B....	\$4½	nominal.
Punjom	\$9	\$4, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1½, sellers
Raub's	18	\$14, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$25.
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$55.
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$60.
China Mutual Pref.	210	210, buyers
Do. Ordinary	27.10	27.10s., sellers
Do. Bonus	25	25., sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47, sales & sellers
H., Canton and M....	\$15	\$34½, sales & buys.
Indo-China S. N. ...	210	\$150, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	21	22.5s. Od., sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$21½. \$9½, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$1.
United Abestos	\$4	\$9.
Do	\$10	\$15.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$19½, sellers
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	nominal.
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10.
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$16, sale & ssellers

VERNON & SMYTH, brokers.

SHANGHAI, 9th October (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). The general tone of the share market has much improved during the past week, and leading stocks show considerable advances in rates. INSURANCE.—Marine. Local market is quiet. Yangtszes are wanted. Fire. No business doing, though Chinas are in request. SHIPPING.—Indo-China S. N. Co. Reports of an excellent half year's working has caused a strong demand for shares, and rates have quickly risen from Tls. 108 to Tls. 108 cash, the market closing firm at latter rate. Settlements were made for 31st inst. at Tls. 103, 103.50, 104, for November 104.50, 105 and 108, for December 1 5.50, 106 to 112, for January at 111, for March at Tls. 110. Forwards are in request.—Shell Transport shares are offering. SUGARS.—Chinas changed hands at \$153 for 10th instant; shares are offering. Peraks are quiet. Luzons are offering. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd. After 15th inst. shareholders desiring to exchange old scrip for provisional certificates must apply at the T'ngshan office of the Company instead of at the Chartered Bank here. Market has weakened from sales at Tls. 9.60 to sales and sellers at 9.30. A March settlement took place at 9.90. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ltd. A firm demand brought about a large business at intermediate rates from Tls. 240 to 270 cash, but a quieter feeling now prevails and shares are obtainable at Tls. 265 to 262.50. Settlements were made for 31st inst. at 260, 265, for November 255, 270, 265; 267.50 and 270, for December 250, 252.50, 267.50, 272.50, 275 and 272.50, for January 252.50, 255, 267.50 and 270. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 29½ for 31st inst. LANDS.—Shanghais were placed at Tls. 99. INDUSTRIAL.—Gas shares are wanted. Major Bros. are offering. Cotton Mills. Ewos were placed at Tls. 40 and Internationals at 32.50. Ice shares sold at Tls. 31.50 and are wanted. Pulp & Paper Mill shares were purchased up to Tls. 106 for cash; December shares were settled at Tls. 108. Montries are wanted. Cements changed hands at \$21.25 and are offering. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—Cargo Boat shares are wanted. MISCELLANEOUS.—Sumatra Tobacco shares are quiet. Langkat Tobacco Co. Shares are in demand in consequence of the favourable report by the Managing Director just issued, and sales are reported up to Tls. 320 for cash; the market closes with buyers at this rate, but no sellers. Hall & Holtz shares were bought at \$36. Astor House Hotel shares are quiet. DEBENTURES.—Shanghai Land Investment 6 per cent. Debentures sold at Tls. 103 and the accrued interest.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 19th October.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1 11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.41½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.44½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.95½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	46½
Credits, 60 days' sight	47½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	143½
Bank, on demand	143½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	143½
Bank, on demand	143½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	6 p.c. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	4½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	½
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	116½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1½
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ..	
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael ..	
BAR SILVER per oz.	

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

October—

- 12, Clara, German str., from Hoihow.
- 12, Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
- 12, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
- 12, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
- 12, Wingsang, British str., from Swatow.
- 13, Dagmar, German str., from Swatow.
- 13, Else, German str., from Taku.
- 13, Gloucester City, British str., from Saigon.
- 13, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
- 13, Pentakota, British trspt., from Calcutta.
- 13, Styx, French cruiser, from Canton.
- 13, Glenshale, British str., from London.
- 14, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
- 14, Dardanus, British str., from Liverpool.
- 14, Hoihao, French str., from Hoihow.
- 14, Hong Bee, British str., from Straits.
- 14, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 14, Paoting, British str., from Amoy.
- 14, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
- 14, Trieste, Austrian str., from Kobe.
- 14, Ulysses, British str., from Moji.
- 15, Hamburg, German str., from Shanghai.
- 15, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
- 15, Kiautschou, German str., from Bremen.
- 15, Koenigsberg, German str., from Y'hama.
- 15, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
- 15, Nive, French trspt., from Taku.
- 15, Pakhoi, British str., from Amoy.
- 15, Peluse, British str., from Swatow.
- 15, Tsinan, British str., from Shanghai.
- 15, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
- 15, Loyal, German str., from Samarang.
- 15, Pyrrhus, British str., from Japan.
- 16, Benmehr, British str., from Moji.
- 16, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
- 16, Endymion, British cr., from Yokohama.
- 16, Hakata Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
- 16, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 16, Pelayo, British str., from Swatow.
- 16, Sullberg, German str., from Newchwang.
- 16, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
- 16, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
- 17, Canton, British str., from Yokohama.
- 17, Devonshire, British str., from Moji.
- 17, Fushun, British str., from Canton.
- 17, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
- 17, Hino Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
- 17, Hyson, British str., from Tacoma.
- 17, Pakhoi, British str., from Canton.
- 17, Saladadi, Dutch str., from Swatow.
- 18, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
- 18, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
- 18, Doric, British str., from San Francisco.
- 18, Dordogne, French str., from Haiphong.
- 18, Fooksang, British str., from Chefoo.
- 18, Independent, German str., from Chefoo.
- 18, Marburg, German str., from Hamburg.
- 18, Radnorshire, British str., from Moji.
- 18, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.
- 18, Kalgan, British str., from Java.
- 18, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 19, Else, German str., from Canton.
- 19, Japan, British str., from London.
- 19, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 19, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 19, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
- 19, Baker Standard, Brit. str., from Singapore.
- 19, Rajah, British transport, from Calcutta.
- 19, Uganda, British transport, from Calcutta.
- 20, Cassius, German str., from Saigon.
- 19, M. Bacquehem, Aust. str., from Trieste.
- 19, Pembrokehire, British str., from London.
- 19, Laos, French str., from Yokohama.
- 20, Decedee, French gunboat, from Foochow.
- 20, Feiching, British str., from Shanghai.
- 20, Wuhu, British str., from Newchwang.

October—

DEPARTURES.

- 11, Muttra, British trspt., for Taku.
- 12, Bormida, Italian str., for Bombay.
- 12, Carthage, British hosp.-ship, for Bombay.
- 12, Chingtu, British str., for Sydney.
- 12, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Hinsang, British str., for Hongay.
- 12, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Kaifong, British str., for Iloilo.
- 12, Kutsang, British str., for Amoy.
- 12, Machew, German str., for Swatow.
- 12, Michael Jensen, German str., for Pakhoi.
- 12, Mongkut, German str., for Swatow.
- 12, Monterey, U.S. monitor, for Shanghai.
- 12, Nestor, British str., for Shanghai.

12. Palawan, British str., for Europe.
12. Segovia, German str., for Yokohama.
12. Telemachus, British str., for Swatow.
12. Wing-ang, British str., for Canton.
12. Yedo Maru, Japanese str., for Chefoo.
12. Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
13. Benlmond, British str., for Nagasaki.
13. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
13. Flandria, German str., for Shanghai.
13. Kwongsang, British str., for Swatow.
13. Nanchang, British str., for Tientsin.
13. Pelayo, British str., for Swatow.
13. Zweena, British str., for Singapore.
13. Obi, British str., for Shanghai.
14. Benledi, British str., for Weihaiwei.
14. Fushun, British str., for Canton.
14. Protector, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
14. Sabina Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.
15. Chinkiang, British str., for Chefoo.
15. Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
15. Dagmar, German str., for Chinkiang.
15. Else, German str., for Canton.
15. Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
15. Kate, Austrian str., for Moji.
15. Pakhoi, British str., for Canton.
15. Pentakota, British str., for Taku.
15. Phra Chom Klao, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
15. Sishan, British str., for Amoy.
15. Victoria, British str., for Tacoma.
16. Dardanus, British str., for Shanghai.
16. Hamburg, German str., for Europe.
16. Kiautschou, German str., for Shanghai.
16. Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
16. Monadnock, U.S. monitor, for Canton.
16. Paoting, British str., for Shanghai.
17. Catherine Aprar, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
17. Glenshiel, British str., for Shanghai.
17. Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
17. Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
17. Hue, French str., for Kwong-chow-wan.
17. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
17. Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
17. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
17. Ulysses, British str., for London.
18. Fushun, British str., for Shanghai.
18. Hakata Maru, Japanese str., for London.
18. Indrapura, British str., for Portland.
18. Kasuga Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.
18. Macduff, British str., for Moji.
18. Nive, French transport, for Tonkin.
18. Pakshan, British str., for Amoy.
18. Pyrrhus, British str., for London.
18. Taichow, German str., for Bangkok.
18. Trieste, Austrian str., for Trieste.
18. Whampoa, British str., for Ningpo.
18. Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
19. Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
19. Albania, British ship, for Newcastle.
19. China, American str., for San Francisco.
19. Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
19. Hong Bee, British str., for Amoy.
19. Koenigsberg, German str., for Hamburg.
19. Peluse, British str., for Amoy.
19. Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
19. Kinshu Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle.
19. Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
19. Sullberg, German str., for Newchwang.
19. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
20. Pelayo, British str., for Penang.
20. Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
20. Hyson, British str., for Manila.
20. Marburg, German str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Palawan*, from London, from Shanghai, Mrs. Sampson Way and Mr. R. H. Mortimer; for Marseilles, Capt. Daehnhardt; for Hongkong, Messrs. Owen Ordish, Edward Fayrer, Simon Moyle, William Harvey, Thada de Krgyworzewski, J. D. Clark, J. R. Geerlofs, W. A. Brumfield, Mitchell and Dr. Karana; for Bombay, from Yokohama, Mr. C. Abdoola; for Hongkong, Mr. F. R. Smith.

Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Dr. and Mrs. Otte and three children, Dr. Turner and Miss Lazenby.

Per *Wingsang*, from Swatow, Mrs. and Master Banvord, Messrs. Wart and Watter.

Per *Dagmar*, from Swatow, Mrs. Focken.

Per *Pentakota*, from Calcutta, Lieuts. Humphreys, Merriman Gordon, Butler, Lind and MacLean, Mrs. Beadle and two children and Sergt. T. Grout.

Per *Fushun*, from Shanghai, Messrs. G. Minas, J. M. Allardise and A. D. T. Aureliar.

Per *Glenshiel*, for Hongkong, from London, Messrs. Seth, Lindsay, Adam and Calder; for Shanghai, Mr. Douglas Mrs. Inglis, and Mrs. Swan and daughter.

Per *Hoihao*, from Hoihow, Mrs. Bolton.

Per *Trieste*, from Kobe, &c., Capt. Ronrich.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Miss L. L. Lindley, Messrs. L. Gillespie, Valentine, Lewandowski, Arts, Richel and Bendloss.

Per *Koenigsberg*, from Yokohama, Messrs. H. Kladt and T. Ogorok and Miss Obert Schrell.

Per *Kiautschou*, from Bremen, for Hongkong, Mrs. Walter, Miss Martha Walter, Messrs. Hug Walter, Hermann Walter and Hans H. Stabe; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wolter and children, Drs. Hinze and M. Wunsch, Messrs. Hönig, Geisler, Tobien, Neumann, Bollinger and Dickel; for Yokohama, Messrs. Carl Illies, Jr., and Carl Ziegler; from Southampton, for Hongkong, Mrs. Kidd and children, Mrs. and Miss Edmunds and Mr. S. D. Hickie; for Shanghai, Mrs. Edmunds, Mrs. Mrs. Grant and children, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Warren Moore, Mrs. and Miss Rees, Mrs. Turton, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Brown and child, Mr. and Mrs. Christensen and children, Mr. and Mrs. L. Grant, Dr. and Mrs. Hotvedt, Rev. and Mrs. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson and child, Rev. and Mrs. John Keers, Mr. and Mrs. Vardon and children, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks and children, Misses Comber (2), Hunt, Kiddson, Macphail, May, E. Miles, Marie Mosen, MacMoordie, Moreton, Morr and MacPhail (3), Drs. Cochran and H. Davidson, Rev. S. E. Meech, Messrs. C. Ewens, Gordon Kerr, Kiddson, F. Neville May, H. Payne, and W. E. Plummer; for Nagasaki, Messrs. G. Chester-Master and Gordon Kerr; for Yokohama, Mr. Bradley; from Genoa, for Hongkong, Mrs. Turner and child, Miss Marie A. Kolb, Drs. Wendland and F. Müller, Messrs. C. Ewens, G. Krüger, Johs. Sachs, H. Vömel and K. Zwissler; for Shanghai, Mrs. Brandt, Mrs. Felgate, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Clara Kranz, Misses Margarethe Kranz, Theodor Krapz and Berthold Kranz, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kranz, Mr. and Mrs. A. Dabelstein and child, Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Pape, Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Steppard, Mr. and Mrs. J. Travers Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Erich Willkomm, Rev. Padres G. Bricco and Gillespie, Drs. Learmouth and R. Rutishauser, Fr. W. Kegel, Messrs. Pfarrer Boie, Joseph Dols, Alphonse de Decker, F. M. Hirz, Francois Joosten, Wilhelm Paul, Francois van Peer, Max Pfeiderer, Gentil Pycke, Joseph Rutten, Alfred Schaefer, Ferdinand Simon, Francois Stappers, Raphael Tysmans and Achille Walmaeq; for Yokohama, Mrs. Dankwerts and children, Messrs. Franz Bramsch, John Refeen, Paul Hopf, Paul Schlüter and Dr. S. Sugiyama.

Per *Hamburg*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Messrs. Fosé Robles, and F. Bowin; from Kobe, Messrs. J. C. R. d'Assumpcao, C. A. R. d'Assumpcao, J. M. F. Basto, Thos. Holysake Box, Gardinier G. Hubbard, from Nagasaki, Messrs. W. Mathieson, and S. J. Godwin; from Shanghai, Mrs. Cooper and child, Mrs. Stanford, Mrs. Krieg, Miss Lower, Messrs. Harei Droiz, Jules van Aalst, A. S. Anton, M. S. Hibba, W. Kolle, R. Koynsberg, A. J. M. Gomes, R. Felgate, D. J. Wallaer.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Australia, for Hongkong, Mrs. Nason, Misses Nickalls and Southon, Major C. S. A. Smith, Vice-Consul Sinclair, Messrs. E. Rilly, W. H. Gors, R. Hooking, Ed. Mathis, C. H. King, J. H. King, L. E. Bennett, W. S. Vidor, F. E. Coney and A. H. McKenzie; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Atterdyce and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Hall, Miss Tonkin and Mr. Denny; for Kobe, Mr. Atsumi; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Walf, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. E. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Gleddon, Mr. and Mrs. Caballero, sister and two children, Misses M. C. Bell, Cowper, Thornton and Drysdale, Paymaster Sullivan, Asst.-Surgeon Snyder, Messrs. J. F. Borton, J. W. Earle, P. V. Margou, Chas. S. Strauss and Watanabe.

Per *Hakata Maru*, from Moji, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. H. King and children, Miss Baylys, Messrs. G. Bachse, J. Kahn, A. McDowall and Dr. Oronby Atikho.

Per *Canton*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. A. D. Powell, Messrs. J. Dawson and P. J. Gillings; for London, Mrs. A. R. Donnelley, Misses Donnelley and Mr. Donnelley, jun.

Per *Hailoong*, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. J. Verdi.

Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. A. J. Coffee, Mrs. A. Bellamy Brown and two children, Mrs. F. Smythe and child, Mrs. E. Crook, Mrs. H. Menier, Mrs. Ed. Schuntenhaus, Mrs. Wylee, Mrs. F. L. Strong, Mrs. H. Stone, Mrs. A. Forrest, Rev. and Mrs. Chas. Nelson and child, Rev. and Mrs. A. I. Robb and three children, Misses K. L. E. Meyers, Rivers-Thompson, M. L. Strong, J. Torrence, Geneveive Cutler, Grace Tennyson, Wylee and Amy Jones, Drs. J. Maud George and E. Crook, Rev. G. E. Finley, Major DuBoulay, R.A., Capt. Richards, R.A., and F. Kofod, Lieut. Owen, R.A., Messrs. E. J. Sahmitz, F. R. Wardle, M. de Mantille, Ed. Schuntenhaus and S. M. Wakefield.

DEPARTED.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Coggin and child, Messrs. F. M. Barros, T. Sato, F. Kinoda, R. Isutsuki and T. Ando.

Per *Shinano Maru*, for Japan, Messrs. W. Sweet, F. Neil, F. E. Cope, M. A. Remazie, Chas. A. Clark, K. Sakurai, Tokichiro Yomi, K. Isheda, M. Shirai, Prof. S. Kuri, Dr. F. Yamada, and Mrs. Tomi Kondo.

Per *Palawan*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs. Hanman, A. F. Worthington, and M. Jones; for Bombay, Mr. R. S. Futtika; for Brindisi, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Steel; for London, Mrs. Rashbrook, Mr. and Mrs. Phasy and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Hill and two children, Messrs. G. H. Morris, F. J. Jones and John Sutherland; from Shanghai, for Bombay, Mr. C. Abdoola; for Marseilles, Capt. Daehnhardt; for London, Mrs. Sampson Way and Mr. R. H. Mortimer.

Per *Hongkong Maru*, for Shanghai, Mrs. H. E. Jewett, Misses A. and E. Hager, Miss Sydney Earle and Mr. W. A. Brumfield; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Gote, Mr. C. J. Crane and Mrs. Akita; for Kobe, Messrs. A. O. Bacon, J. K. Ohl, H. D. Groene, S. W. Jack, R. McDonald, General Fukushima and Capt. S. Koyama; for Honolulu, Mr. E. Hartmann; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Carpenter, Major G. H. Loch, I.S.C., Misses Priscilla Verne and Beatrice Wardle, Messrs. M. R. Overill and A. E. Willsher; for Boston, Lieut.-Col. A. C. Kelton, U.S.M.C.; for Chicago, Mrs. J. A. Otte, Miss L. Otte and Master Frank Otte; for New York, Mr. F. L. Benton; for London, Mr. W. Gater.

Per *Kiautschou*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. Burnett, Mrs. and Miss D. H. Selas and two children, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Allardye, Messrs. S. S. Benjamin, D. Haskell, J. D. Clark, J. H. Kemp, R. Felgate, Riley, and A. Grant; for Nagasaki, Mr. H. Yoshida; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. F. Höhnke, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Graham, Messrs. T. A. Lewandowski, O. Wegener and M. Tsobe.

Per *Hamburg*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. W. Külle; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. E. Crowley, Mr. and Mrs. Burk; for Naples, Sir John Carrington, C.M.G.; for Genoa, Dr. C. Gerlach, Messrs. H. Nellner and H. Lewerenz; for London, Miss Carrington.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, for Japan, Mrs. Sterling and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. Gleddon, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. E. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Cabballero and two children, Misses Cowper, M. C. Bell, Cabballero, Drysdale and M. Thourton, Messrs. R. Hoskings, W. A. M. Sinclair, P. Skuddies, J. F. Borton, J. D. Earle, P. V. Morgon, Chas. S. Strauss, Capt. H. Fraser, Paymaster Sullivan, Asst. Surgeon Snyder, Messrs. T. Nogata, D. Matsui, T. Morita, K. Fujita, K. Kawada, S. Kada, Watanabe and Atsumi.

Per *Hakata Maru*, for London, &c., Mrs. Christie and two children, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. H. King and four children, Messrs. J. Kahn and A. McDowall, Lieut.-Col. J. Horinouchi, Lieuts. C. Masuda and Y. Kamimura, Chief Engineer, M. Nakamura, Surgeon J. Sudzuki, Paymaster S. Saito, Petty Officers T. Kawashima, R. Okamoto and T. Sakamoto, Messrs. T. Nozaki, T. Nomura, H. Matzuzaki, K. Kurouwa and S. Kondo.

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